

Bush returns from holiday to face growing pressure to make a pre-emptive military strike

Iraq rounds up hostages for 'human shield'

By JUAN CARLOS GUMUCIO IN DUBAI AND ANDREW MCEWEN

IRAQ yesterday began rounding up Britons, Americans, French and Germans in Kuwait, while announcing that it would release citizens from several other countries.

The move heightened the risk of conflict at a time when President Bush is under pressure to make a pre-emptive military strike. He returned to Washington from holiday yesterday and met national security advisers.

Baghdad made it clear that those held would be used as a human shield to deter American, Saudi and British forces from bombing key installations. Michael Weston, the British ambassador in Kuwait, reported that 40 Britons had been taken from their hotels.

The Foreign Office advised Britons in Kuwait to stay at home, but added that they should not resist if the authorities came for them. The White House described the round-up as "totally unacceptable".

Washington and London now face the probability that up to 7,000 of their citizens would be at risk in any conflict with Iraq. Some other countries have been spared. Saudi Mehdi Saleh, speaker of the National Assembly, said: "Some nations of Austria, Sweden, Switzerland, Finland and Portugal would be allowed to leave. He described this as a 'goodwill gesture', but it was seen in London as an attempt to divide the West.

Iraq continued to try to

mend fences with Iran yesterday, and to avoid a break with Moscow. The Iranian news agency IRNA reported that about 5,000 of its 60,000 nationals resident in Kuwait crossed into Iran by car yesterday. The others may be allowed to leave soon. Tass said that the last 166 Soviet nationals in Kuwait were preparing to leave, joining

appear to have marked the start of a conflict. The tankers were thought to have continued on their journey without being attacked, but American warships continued to shadow them.

It was not clear whether the Iraqi ships were carrying oil, but this would be unusual as they appeared to be heading for Kuwait. Pentagon officials said that the vessels would be prevented from offloading any oil, prompting speculation that the US warships might disable them by damaging their rudders.

While Iraq warned of "grave consequences" of such "acts of piracy", Richard Cheney, the American defence secretary, said that he "wouldn't want to speculate on what happens next".

Thomas Pickering, US ambassador to the United Nations, referred to the Westerners held in Kuwait as "hostages". He was the first American official to use a word which the administration and the British government have avoided. Les Aspin, chairman of the House armed services committee, also used the term and he issued a warning that if the Iraqis harmed any American citizen it would be "an act of war".

The White House is about to announce the call-up of reservists, the first such mobilisation since the North Vietnam Tet offensive in 1968. The Pentagon has commandeered nearly 40 aircraft from 16 commercial airlines to ferry troops and equipment to Saudi Arabia. The first time it has activated the Civil Reserve Air Fleet since its formation 38 years ago.

More ships left Norfolk, Virginia, over the weekend and there were reports of two squadrons of Harrier jump jets departing from a base in South Carolina and a second wing of F-117A "Stealth" fighter bombers setting off from Nevada. The US Air Force ordered commercial airlines to provide nearly 40 aircraft to transport troops and equipment.

Mr Cheney, in Bahrain having spent Friday and Saturday in Saudi Arabia, said there were now enough American troops in that country to make Iraq "pay the price" if it were "foolish enough" to attack. He again refused to give numbers.

**ON OTHER PAGES**

Three pages of reports and analysis... 2, 3, 4

Desert warfare and Ronald Butt... Page 6

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Desert build-up: men of the American 82nd Airborne Division leaving the transport aircraft which had brought them to Saudi Arabia

MPs 'should be recalled'

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

A SENIOR Conservative MP today urges the government to recall Parliament to discuss the situation in the Gulf and to tell ministers not to take Westminster for granted.

The appeal by Sir Rhodes Boyson in a letter to *The Times* coincides with some disquiet among Conservative MPs about the measured way in which Margaret Thatcher and her ministers are responding to the threat to 4,500 British citizens trapped in Kuwait and Iraq and the prospect of an outbreak of hostilities in the region.

However, with the Labour frontbench content to keep events in the Gulf under review and to refrain from demanding an immediate recall of Parliament, the pressure on the prime minister is far from overwhelming.

Government sources said yesterday that in the absence of any dramatic change of circumstances in the Gulf there were no plans to bring MPs and peers back to Westminster. Mrs Thatcher met Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, over lunch yesterday in Cornwall, where she has been on holiday for the past week. The sources gave no details of the meeting and

declined to say when Mrs Thatcher would be returning to London. Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, was returning to Britain last night from his holiday in Tuscany to differences of opinion among his senior colleagues about whether the Gulf flare-up should be immediately debated at Westminster.

Mr Kinnock has been in regular contact with his office and his chief spokesman and has so far sided with the views of Roy Hattersley, his deputy, that the position has not changed sufficiently since the Iraqi invasion to justify a recall. Discounting a couple of forays by Gerald Kaufman, the shadow foreign secretary, and his foreign affairs team aimed at the detail of the Foreign Office's handling of the affair, Labour has maintained broad support for the government's response.

However, David Howell, Conservative chairman of the cross-party foreign affairs select committee, said: "If there is a further escalation of the crisis then it will be necessary to have parliamentary support and approval of the government's strategy."

Banks sink under a surfeit of 50p pieces

By NEIL BENNETT, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

IS THE fifty pence piece dead? There are 50 million too many gathering dust in bank vaults and the Royal Mint has refused to take them back. The British Bankers' Association is now writing to John Major, the chancellor, to complain about the situation, which is costing its members almost £4 million a year in lost interest.

The excess of 50 pence pieces - weighing 675 tonnes - was first noticed a year ago when all the banks discovered that no matter how hard they tried to distribute the coins to customers, more were being paid back in.

The culprit is the £1 coin which, since its issue five years ago, has lessened demand for 50 pences. The Royal Mint in the past has informally agreed to redeem some coins after the

Regular offenders face tougher line

By ROBIN YOUNG AND NICHOLAS WOOD

THE government will announce today that it is pressing ahead with a proposal to allow courts to take an exceptionally tough line in sentencing offenders with a history of violent and sexual crime.

It could mean that for the same relatively minor offence, habitual violent criminals are jailed for five times as long as others with little or no record of wrongdoing.

The announcement by John Patten, a Home Office minister of state, is intended as a further signal of the government's intention to draw a sharper distinction in sentencing policy between offenders provoking the gravest public disquiet and others attracting less concern.

Law-breakers judged to pose little threat to society will mainly be punished through stiffened community service orders, while long prison sentences will be generally reserved for those convicted of drug trafficking, sexual offences and crimes of violence. Ministers hope that their policy, a rare blend of liberal

and traditional thinking on crime and punishment, which was set out in their criminal justice white paper published in February, will also help to reduce the prison population from the present 47,000.

Today's announcement by Mr Patten will give crown courts powers to pass long sentences on offenders posing a threat to public safety, even where they are convicted of relatively minor charges.

He cites as an example the case of a man with a history of serious violent crime, found guilty of a lesser offence of actual bodily harm which might ordinarily merit 12 months' imprisonment. The minister will say that the judge would in future evaluate the risk the man posed to the community and could impose a sentence of up to five years. The same would apply to a sex offender with a long record.

Mr Patten adds: "We made it clear in our white paper that an exception to the principle of the length of the sentence for an offence being justified by its seriousness could be

275 death toll in townships

The death toll in the South African townships violence rose at the weekend to at least 275 with more than 1,500 people wounded. The most seriously affected area was Soweto, near Johannesburg, where the total of known dead rose from 22 on Friday to 78 yesterday.

A group of reporters in Soweto were horrified when about 20 black youths stabbed and beat a Zulu before their eyes, then poured petrol over him and set him alight.

Walter Sisulu, an ANC veteran, indicated Nelson Mandela would not agree to widespread appeals and hold peace talks with the Zulu Inkatha leader, Mangosuthu Buthelezi. Page 7

Courts hold-up

Hundreds of court cases are being delayed by several months because high court masters - junior judges who make rulings in many civil cases - claim their workload in the Queen's bench division is too heavy. Page 5

Berlin collapse

East Germany's coalition government collapsed amid increasing calls for immediate reunification. The Social Democrats, furious over sacking of two ministers, ended the shaky alliance with the Christian Democrats. Page 18

Queensway delay

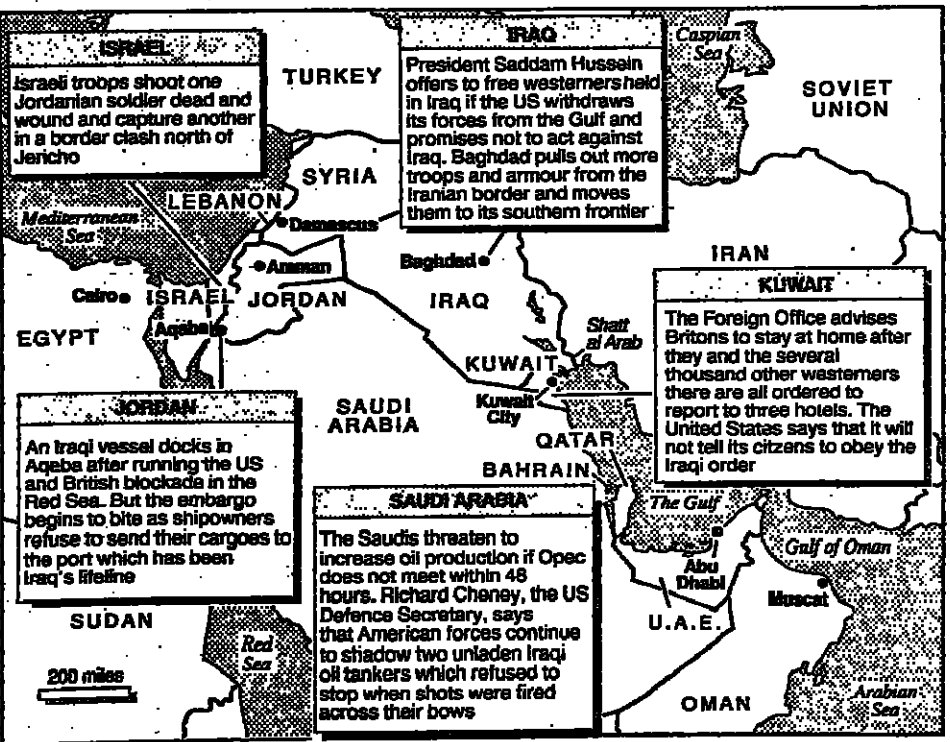
The insolvent Lowndes Queensway furniture chain will not reopen today after talks over the weekend failed to result in agreement with three suppliers. Page 19

Exam results

Degrees awarded by Exeter, Salford and Heriot-Watt universities are published today. Page 23

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Saudis to lift output of oil

By MATTHEW BOND

SAUDI Arabia says it plans to increase its oil production by about 2 million barrels a day, partly compensating for the 4 million barrels a day lost through the blockade of Iraqi and Kuwaiti oil exports.

The United Arab Emirates and Venezuela have indicated that they might be willing to increase production by 500,000 barrels a day each. The increase could bring some short-term stability to oil prices and encourage world financial markets.

Saudi Arabia has called for an emergency meeting of Opec today or tomorrow but says Saudi production will be increased with or without Opec agreement.



Unloved: the 50p coin

introduction of a new one, and melted down 100 million 50 pence pieces between 1986 and 1988. Since then it has refused to accept any more even though the coin's popularity, never high, has continued to decline.

The Treasury and the Mint say the banks had plenty of time to recognise that there was a surplus. "The Mint simply does not operate on a sale or return basis. It is up to the banks to dispose of them," the Treasury said.

Faced with this impasse, bankers are coming up with increasingly wild suggestions of new uses for their unwanted coinage. Most ambitiously, there are dreams of a national marketing campaign to convince children that the tooth fairy now deals in 50 pence coins, and that they have to be kept for luck.

Lord Haw Haw is called up for a desert war

From CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN AQABA

WITH the introduction of an Iraqi equivalent of Lord Haw Haw, the propaganda war in the Gulf is heating up. The propagandist's honeyed tones are beamed to Saudi Arabia and are aimed at undermining the moral of Americans troops based there.

"American soldiers in the Saudi Arabian desert you will be defeated," he continued. Nicknamed "Bashir of Baghdad" by some, the announcer often uses fractured English and incomprehensible phrases. "Why do you come to a land which you are not ameliorated (sic) to its people and its nature... Fighters here do not hesitate to use anything to defend their homeland."

"Remember what the oil-rich Gulf emirs have been doing with American

girls. Why do you want to defend them? The Sabah family (the deposed rulers of Kuwait) are criminals who were driven out by the Kuwaiti people," he continued, using the standard Iraqi double-talk peddled since the invasion of Kuwait.

The broadcast was monitored on a small Sony pocket radio of the sort which soldiers might be expected to use. According to Western security experts it was beamed over the transmitters of Radio Baghdad, reckoned to be among the most powerful in the Middle East.

The Iraqis are already beaming a subversive Arab-language programme to Egypt similar to that mounted after the signing of the Camp David accords with Israel and apparently designed to persuade the masses to overthrow President Mubarak and

close the Suez Canal to all Western shipping.

During a 30-minute broadcast on Saturday night the new anti-American programme concentrated on trying to persuade members of operation Desert Shield that they would be fighting in an unfamiliar and inhospitable climate against a ruthless enemy, and reminded them pointedly of the families they had left behind.

The propagandist's reference to Iraq's fighters using "anything" to defend their land was taken to refer indirectly to chemical weapons.

Iraq's propagandists have clearly been watching Western television, on which American pundits have referred to the Vietnam experience and expressed doubts about Washington's willingness to take heavy casualties. "American soldier in the Saudi Ara-

bian desert," the programme said in one of its regular two-minute jibes, "the result of American public opinion is that the Americans are not ready to die in the Gulf area. Why do you come to the burning desert?"

As the tense stalemate continues, broadcast propaganda is expected to play an important role on both sides. The Voice of America has already expanded its news coverage and put into operation techniques to counter the jamming which has been used against its Arabic service for the first time since it was launched in 1950.

Arabic radio broadcasts beamed to the Middle East by the station have been increased by more than two hours a day to a total of nine hours and 45 minutes.

World Service, page 4

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## OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT: THE WESTERN HOSTAGES

BAGHDAD

# Saddam offers release of hostages if blockade ends

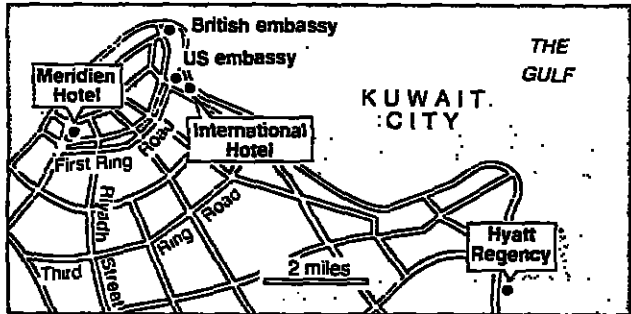
From REUTER IN NICOSIA

IRAQ offered yesterday to release thousands of foreign hostages if the United States and its allies withdrew military forces from the Gulf and lifted their economic blockade. But President Saddam Hussein did not offer to pull his troops out of Kuwait, which he seized on August 2. He said Kuwait should be treated as an "Arab issue".

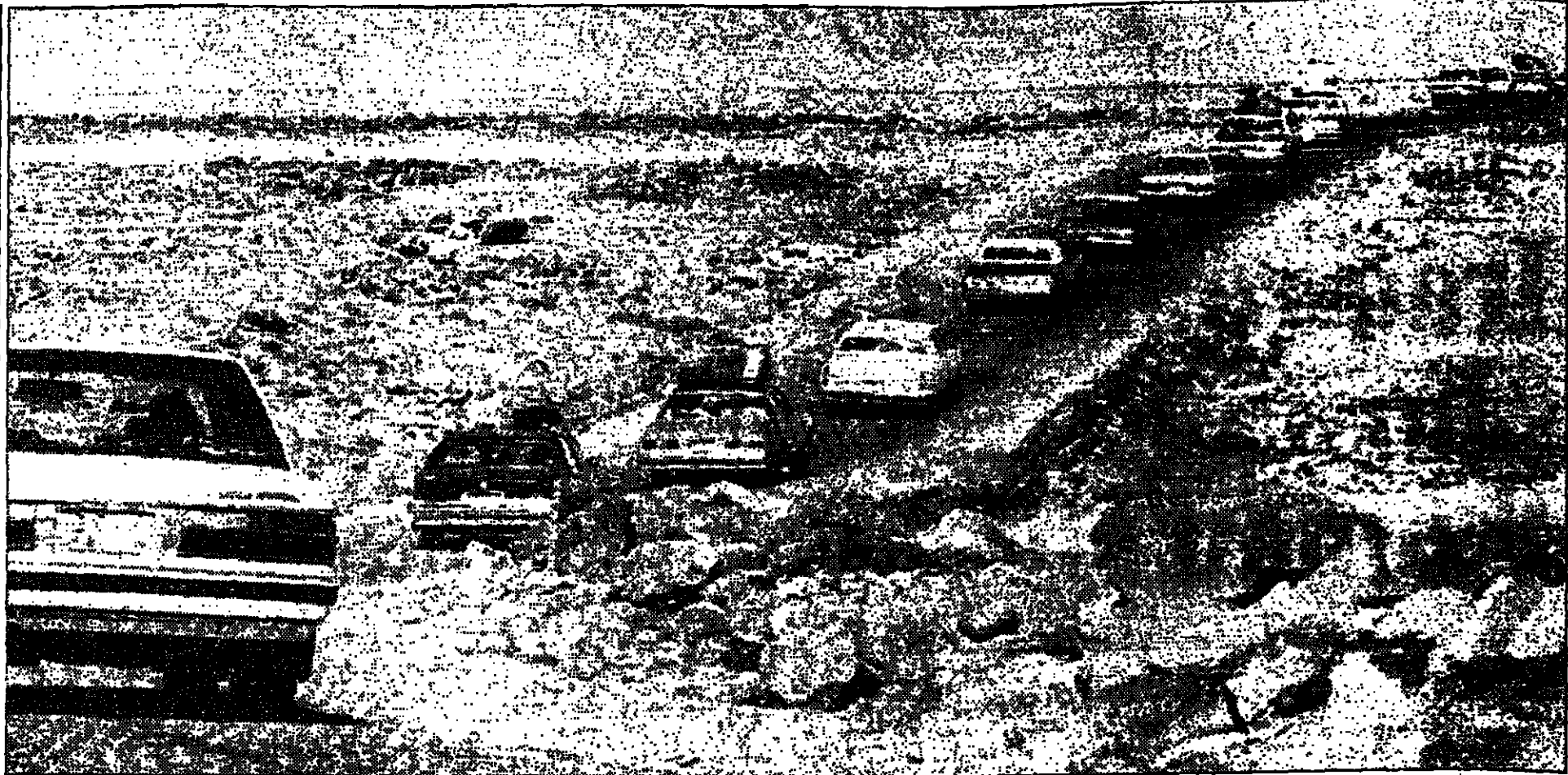
Less than an hour after Saddam's initiative was read on Baghdad television, Iraq announced it would free some Westerners as a "goodwill gesture". The speaker of Iraq's National Assembly, Saadi Mehdi Saleh, said some nationals of Austria, Sweden, Switzerland, Finland and Portugal would be allowed to leave because their countries had not sent forces to the Gulf. He did not say how many of the 570 nationals of the five countries would be allowed home. Mr Saleh, making clear Iraq was ready to trade foreign lives for essential supplies, said more might be let out if their countries did not impose "sanctions on the import of food, medicine and other goods to Iraq."

President Saddam said preventing citizens of countries opposed to Iraq from travelling was "one means of preventing a tragedy... and opening an in-depth dialogue with those countries". Iraq said on Saturday that foreigners would be held at military and civilian installations across Kuwait and Iraq to deter any attack by Western forces massing in the Gulf. President Saddam told families of those detained: "Averting death and starvation resulting from American policy against Iraq by preventing some citizens from travelling is a gain for humanity as a whole. If these vulgar people

Leading article, page 9



The Kuwait hotels where hostages were told to report



The long road home: a convoy of private limousines carrying foreigners, mainly Egyptians, driving through the Jordanian desert after crossing the border with Iraq at Roweishid. While President Saddam is holding Western expatriates as hostages, most Arabs working in Iraq and Kuwait have been allowed to leave

WASHINGTON

## Administration moves on to war footing

From MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

AMERICA is suddenly and unmistakably on a war footing. Official policy is still to subdue Iraq by economic means as President Bush ends his fishing and golfing holiday at Kennebunkport, his retreat in Maine, but the United States is sliding inexorably towards war with Iraq.

Two US warships on Saturday fired the first shots of the Gulf confrontation across the bows of Iraqi tankers, and Baghdad said it was moving American citizens to key installations to act as human shields against an American air attack.

The White House is about to announce the call-up of reservists, the first such mobilisation since the 1968 Tet offensive in Vietnam. The Pentagon has commandeered nearly 40 aircraft from 16 commercial airlines to ferry troops and equipment to Saudi Arabia, the first time it has activated the Civil Reserve Air Fleet in its 38-year existence.

In Washington the lights burn round the clock at the Pentagon as planners oversee the biggest military deployment in such a short space of time since the second world war. Across the country defence contractors who were last month contemplating a

bleak post-Cold War future are now struggling to cope with emergency orders for everything from protective clothing against chemical weapons to replacement missiles. The media is full of pictures of fearful, anxious families waving off warships carrying their husbands and fathers away towards war. As 45,000 marines prepared to leave for Saudi Arabia the wedding chapel at one of their Californian bases last week held 33 marriage ceremonies, five times the weekly average.

It has escaped few peoples' notice that the marines are primarily an amphibious assault, not a defensive force. The F117A stealth fighter-bombers being sent out have no defensive role. Computers on board the ships of the huge US naval armada have been reprogrammed to target missiles on specific Iraqi targets.

As the US military presence assumes an increasingly offensive posture, all talk of a diplomatic solution has dried up in official circles and commentators are dwelling increasingly on the respective military might of the US and Iraq and what the American military options are. "If we fight this war, can we win?" The Washington Post asked in a headline yesterday. Barely a

week ago the predominant feeling was that it would take an Iraqi attack on Saudi Arabia to drag American forces into full-scale hostilities. Today, war seems just around the corner.

The first thing that has changed the mood here is that the 3,000 Americans trapped in Iraq and Kuwait are now in clear and imminent danger. They are being rounded up. The Iraqis have declared their intention to use them as protection against US air attacks, and to make them all, women and children included, suffer first should economic sanctions begin to hurt.

No longer can the Bush administration play down their plight. Ordinary Americans have been tying yellow ribbons around hometown trees for days, but official spokesmen, desperate to avoid the sort of Middle East hostage problems which so damaged the Carter and Reagan administrations, have persistently declined to characterise their position, refusing even to give out their names and addresses to prevent their fate from acquiring a human face.

On Saturday night, however, for the first time officially, Thomas Pickering, the US ambassador to the

United Nations, publicly called them hostages.

Nothing is more likely to provoke American military action against Iraq than threats to American citizens. Within hours of the August 2 invasion, Mr Bush warned that if American citizens were threatened it would "affect the US in a very dramatic way, because I view a fundamental responsibility of my presidency (as being) to protect American citizens". On Saturday he was said to be deeply concerned about their worsening plight.

The second thing that has changed is the realisation that restoring the position to what it was before the invasion of Kuwait cannot be the limit of America's objectives. To force an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait but leave President Saddam Hussein in power in Baghdad would merely buy time before the next, probably nuclear-backed, Iraqi aggression. Meanwhile Iraq would be able to cow the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries into agreeing whatever oil price it demanded, and US troops would be forced to remain indefinitely in Saudi Arabia.

"You can leave Saddam in Iraq minus his million-strong army, or the army without

Saddam, but you can't leave both," one official said.

Coupled with that realisation is the clear danger to Arab unity, to international resolve and to uneasy American public opinion of a long stalemate while the United States waits for sanctions to work, and the uncertain response of President Saddam if he does.

Amid the square miles of newsprint which American weekend newspapers devoted to events in the Gulf yesterday, a chilling article by Henry Kissinger, the former Secretary of State, crystallised what is a fast-emerging view in many quarters here: "A sharp short crisis is far more in the interest of all concerned with moderation than a long siege."

America had "crossed its Rubicon... passed the point of no return", he said, adding: "If it should be concluded that sanctions are too uncertain and diplomacy unavailing, the US will need to consider a surgical and progressive destruction of Iraq's military assets." The conduct of the Iraqis towards the Americans in their country is coming precariously close to giving Mr Bush the justification he would need for such destruction — the most unpleasant decision of his presidency.

MOSCOW

## Pravda says Iraq preparing for war

From MARY DELEVSKY IN MOSCOW

THE first official Soviet response to the Iraqi threat to hold Westerners hostage at strategic sites was guarded. A foreign ministry spokesman said: "This will become another reason for concern over the further development of events in the region. We realise that the point in question is the safety of thousands of people and a possibility of action from both sides that will lead to another escalation of tension."

This accords with President Gorbachev's remarks about the Gulf confrontation on Friday when he put his weight behind a political solution to the crisis and joint action, if necessary, co-ordinated by the United Nations.

A commentary in Pravda yesterday "was more outspoken. This action," it said, "shows that the Iraqi leaders are not prepared to retreat and are preparing for war. Moreover, the means they are using include totally inhuman, in fact, criminal means. The use of hostages is incompatible with the elementary norms of law and morality. This is a flagrant violation of the rights of those who are being forcibly held in the country, a country to which they travelled with good intentions."

So far, the Soviet Union appears to have avoided having its citizens taken hostage. The first group of 230 evacuees from Kuwait, which included oil workers and their families, arrived in Moscow on Saturday on a special Aeroflot flight from Jordan. The group had travelled from Kuwait to Baghdad and then on to the Jordanian border in buses. A second, smaller group of evacuees is expected to arrive in Moscow this evening, and Tass said the last 166 Soviet citizens in Kuwait were preparing to leave.

About 880 Soviet citizens, including military technicians, were in Kuwait when Iraq invaded on August 2. Moscow also plans to evacuate Soviet women and children from Iraq, where it has 7,830 citizens.

Organising the evacuation has taxed Soviet resources and will have been expensive. He publicly exercise seems designed to counter the impression of defeat and disorder that accompanied the Russian flight from Azerbaijan.

Soviet officials continue to deny that there are more than 200 Soviet military "specialists" in Iraq and insist that none of them has any strategic role in the Iraqi armed forces. In his speech to the military, Mr Gorbachev accused Iraq of "perfidy", noting that Soviet weapons sold for defensive purposes had been used to attack a sovereign state.

LONDON

## Foreign Office tells Britons 'stay home and keep low'

By ANDREW MCEWEN, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR, AND AGENCIES

AS IRAQ began rounding up Britons in Kuwait and Iraq, the Foreign Office yesterday repeated its advice to others to "stay at home and maintain a low profile". But it said they should not resist if the Iraqi authorities came for them.

Forty Britons have been taken from their hotels to checkpoints. They are expected to be sent to sites of strategic importance, where their presence would be used to deter attack.

The Foreign Office did not explicitly say Britons should ignore the Iraqi order to go to the Hyatt Regency, Meridien and International (formerly Hilton) hotels, but it was implicit. Washington has said it will not order its citizens in Kuwait to comply.

Iraq has said that "anyone who does not comply with this call, they and their governments bear full responsibility for any evil consequences resulting from acts against them by hostile elements".

Michael Weston, the British ambassador in Kuwait, passed to London details of those taken from their hotels. "Families of those known to be affected have been informed," a spokesman said.

The government expressed its "gravest concern". Britain was putting "the greatest possible" pressure on Iraq to release the Britons and diplomatic protests were made by the ambassadors in Kuwait and Baghdad.

Baghdad said on Saturday that Britons and Americans would be moved to military and civilian installations and held there until the danger of war was over. President Saddam Hussein said in a speech read yesterday on Iraqi television that the policy of using foreigners to deter an attack was "a gain for humanity in general".

After the wife of one hostage accused Paris of keeping their detention secret for three days, France yesterday confirmed that 27 French nationals were being held somewhere in Iraq. Soon after the unidentified Frenchwoman appeared on France's TFI television chan-

nel for their rescue, a foreign ministry spokesman confirmed that the French citizens had been taken away. The woman said the hostages included her husband and a girl, aged four, travelling without her parents.

The West German government said yesterday that the Iraqis had forced an unknown number of West Germans to travel from Kuwait to Baghdad. The foreign ministry and the government said the fate of an estimated thousand West Germans being held in Kuwait and Iraq was being monitored "with grave concern".

Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, said in a message to those held: "We are doing everything in our power to help you. We want to get you back home as soon as possible."

With news that its citizens are among hostages held by Iraq, Australia said yesterday it was considering a more aggressive role for its two frigates heading for the Gulf. Belgium yesterday advised its 21 nationals in Kuwait to stay at home and ignore the order to gather with other Westerners at the hotels.

With the exception of diplomatic personnel, citizens of Hungary living in Kuwait

were yesterday also moved to Baghdad. The foreign ministry said 149 Hungarians left Kuwait city in five coaches and 26 cars escorted by two lorries.

Sten Andersson, the foreign minister of Sweden, criticised Iraq's threat to let Western infants suffer from food shortages as "cynicism beyond comparison".

Inder Kumar Gujral, the external affairs minister of India, concerned about tens of thousands of Indians in Iraq and Kuwait, yesterday had talks in Baghdad with Tariq Aziz, his Iraqi counterpart.

The official Iraqi news agency said the two men discussed "relations between the two friendly countries and emphasised that they were eager to expand these relations to promote their joint interests".

Abdu al-Kairi, Iraq's ambassador in Switzerland, said in Bern yesterday that the 120 Swiss citizens in Iraq and Kuwait were being treated "the same as the other foreigners" and were not regarded as neutrals. He said it was obvious that "a country letting itself be drawn into any measure directed against Iraq is in the same boat as those nations applying the blockade."

NEW YORK

## UN demands that foreigners be freed

From JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

THE United Nations Security Council, meeting in emergency session within hours of Iraq's declaration that it would use foreigners as a human shield against attack, demanded at the weekend that foreign citizens trapped in Iraq and Kuwait be allowed to leave.

The resolution demanded that "Iraq permit and facilitate the immediate departure from Kuwait and Iraq of the nationals of third countries and grant immediate and continuing access of consular officials to such nationals".

The text also demanded that "Iraq take no action to jeopardise the safety, security or health of such nationals". All 15 members of the council voted for the resolution, the fourth directed against Baghdad since the Iraqi invasion on August 2.

Two UN envoys were expected to arrive in Baghdad today to protect the interests of the stranded foreigners in response to an earlier appeal from the Security Council. They are Virendra Dayal, an Indian who heads the UN secretary-general's executive office, and Kofi Annan, a Ghanaian who is controller in the UN office of programme planning, budget and finance. Western diplomatic sources consider their mission "a very, very difficult job".

An estimated 4,000 Britons and 2,500 Americans are



Powers confer: Sir Crispin Tickell, Britain's ambassador to the UN, with Luyu Li of China before the unanimous vote

trapped in occupied Kuwait and more than 700 Britons and 600 Americans are in Iraq. Thousands of other foreign citizens have also been prevented from leaving since the invasion.

On Friday night, Iraq announced that as many as 10,000 Britons, Americans and other foreigners would be scattered among Iraqi military

supplies are cut off by the UN embargo.

Yemen, the only Arab nation on the Security Council, voted for the resolution, but its ambassador, Mohamed Sallam, said food should be allowed into Iraq. The UN sanctions allow food and medicine shipments to Iraq for humanitarian purposes.

The Security Council met after holding informal consultations at the request of the United States. The resolution was drafted during an afternoon meeting of the council's five permanent members: the United States, the Soviet Union, Britain, France and China.

The Soviet Union had been "very helpful" to Britain and the United States, Western diplomatic sources said, and the Chinese had also been supportive.

A further meeting of the five, described by one diplomat as "the morning after the night before", was scheduled yesterday. Diplomatic sources said "there is a little talking in the air" about adopting a follow-up resolution under Article 42 of the charter imposing a UN blockade on Iraq to enforce the embargo.

The Canadian delegation was pressing for such a step at the informal consultations at the weekend. But none of the permanent members is seeking an Article 42 resolution immediately.

KUWAIT CITY

## Westerners ready for trouble with hideaways and food hoards

From MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

MOST Westerners in Kuwait have hoarded enough food to last weeks and many have built secret hideaways, even bomb shelters, in their homes, according to John Ogilvy, aged 46, a Briton who escaped last week.

He believes that despite Iraq's determination to use them as hostages, Westerners could still flee with the help of maps being drawn up by a European rally driver with excellent knowledge of the desert.

Mr Ogilvy said that low morale among poorly fed Iraqi troops, many as young as 14 and 15, could also boost the chances of escape. His own group of 25 bribed its way to freedom last Sunday with a crate

of softdrinks, two bottles of water and a bunch of bananas. Others had spotted Iraqi soldiers in the desert, clearly cut off from supply lines, climbing date palms to pick the fruit.

While Mr Ogilvy's group escaped with the help of Kuwaiti guides, he said that three other groups, totalling between 40 and 50 people of all nationalities, had been led through the desert by a rally driver who left them near the border before returning to Kuwait City. The driver had drawn up and duplicated maps of confirmed escape routes to distribute to others. Mr Ogilvy said. Wardens, usually prominent expatriates, had been assigned to maintain contact between groups of Britons.

In the first few days after the August 2

invasion Britons and other Westerners stockpiled as much food as they could buy, mostly tinned meat, rice and long-life milk. "Most Europeans will be well set up," Mr Ogilvy said. "The people who will suffer will be the Asians, who don't have so much money and may not have been paid because it was still just the second of the month."

The conflict has turned many Westerners into self-taught survivalists. Mr Ogilvy, a chartered surveyor, adapted a shallow space between his bathroom ceiling and the roof of his house into an air-conditioned hideaway stocked with food and water to last three months. He disguised its entrance, tapped into the electricity supply and kept in contact with friends by radio-telephone. He shared the

space with a colleague. His wife and three children were to have joined him in Kuwait later this month.

Other Westerners, he said, had turned their bathrooms into bomb shelters, reinforced with beams from construction sites. Baths were kept full of water in the hope that they would absorb mustard gas if chemical warfare began.

While it was still, as he described it, "fairly safe" on the streets, the BBC's World Service, which everyone tuned to for hourly news bulletins, had convinced him that it was time to get out.

Mr Ogilvy, who spent much of 1986 and 1987 in Iraq, said that many Britons who had never been in a military situation were frightened by the sight of tanks and missiles in Kuwait. They had,

nevertheless, weighed up the risks and decided it was best to stay.

One British couple had stayed because the wife refused to leave her dog, although their son and daughter took their chances with a group which reached freedom on Thursday using one of the rally driver's maps. Mr Ogilvy said he was in contact with the son, who planned to go back to persuade his parents to leave, but he doubted whether Saudi Arabian border officials would allow his friend to return.

Mr Ogilvy was among 12 Britons in a group of 25 led by Kuwaiti guides who escaped to Saudi Arabia last Sunday and reached Bahrain on Monday. After an initial reconnaissance trip, they made their escape in a convoy including two stolen saloon cars.



## OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT: MIDDLE EAST DEVELOPMENTS

## Israeli analysts foresee realignment with moderate Arab states

From RICHARD OWEN IN JERUSALEM

AS THE Israeli cabinet reviewed the Gulf confrontation yesterday, analysts here studying its long-term impact predicted a new Middle East balance in which the actions of President Saddam Hussein could lead to the alignment of Jerusalem with moderate Arab states.

"This has altered the strategic picture," one analyst said. "The West has been so preoccupied with the blockade and the threat of war it has overlooked one very significant fact: this is one crisis in which Israel and a majority of the Arab League states are on the same side."

Israeli sources said this did not mean that Saudi Arabia or the United Arab Emirates, let alone Syria, were likely to drop their objections to the existence of the Jewish state or their demands for a solution to the Palestinian question. In addition, some fear that President Saddam's increasingly strident but effective calls to Muslims everywhere to support him in a "holy war" will stir the Arab masses to the point where moderate Arab regimes are either toppled or forced to change tack.

This could lead to a Middle East line-up in which Israel is more isolated than ever, facing a

hostile circle of Islamic fundamentalist populations. There is concern in Jerusalem that neighbouring Jordan could go in this direction.

Others suggest that, in addition to the threat of Arab nationalism, Israel must face the possibility that Washington, perhaps in an attempt to reach a compromise with Baghdad, might after all agree to consider Iraq's contention — which the moderate Arab governments would share — that all causes of Middle East tension and volatility should be considered at a peace conference, including the Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. This would run counter to the

Israeli view that the Gulf confrontation has made the West realise that the Israeli-Arab conflict is not the only Middle East issue, perhaps not even the central one. "When this crisis passes, the Bush administration will once again be free to deal with Israel as it wishes," *Masur* warned yesterday. "For this reason, original and daring political thought is needed now."

But for the time being, such worries take second place to satisfaction that the Iraqi threat, to which Israel had feared it might have to respond alone, is being confronted by an unprecedented alliance involving two-thirds of the Arab League as well as

the United States and Britain. This is at a time when American-Israeli relations, which had been shaky because of the refusal of the right-wing government in Jerusalem to engage in peace talks with the Palestinians, appear stronger than ever.

Washington has told Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli prime minister, to "keep his guns holstered". President Bush is deliberately keeping the Israeli-American strategic axis in the background in order to focus on the new relationship being forged between the US and anti-Iraqi Arab countries led by Egypt. None the less, analysts suggest, the US will find itself contemplating a

greatly altered Middle East balance in which American-Israeli ties are as powerful as ever while Washington has new channels of communication, friendship and even military links with Arab nations from Syria to Saudi Arabia.

The Soviet Union, for its part, has also altered the equation fundamentally. Moscow is no longer supporting the radical cause in the Arab world to the extent it did.

"It is good that the present conflagration has happened now," Zeev Schiff, the leading Israeli military commentator, said. "If Saddam Hussein had embarked on this adventure in three or four years' time, he would have simultaneously occupied Kuwaiti oil fields, concentrated seven to ten armoured divisions, backed by ground-to-ground missiles on Jordan's border, and announced that he possesses not only chemical and biological weapons but nuclear weapons as well."

Mr Schiff said that Israel would then have been faced with a "terrible dilemma" over how to respond. "It is greatly doubtful whether the world would have convened against Iraq as it is now doing." The West, Mr Schiff said in the newspaper *Haaretz*, would not have perceived such a situation as a threat to its oil supplies but rather as an Iraqi-Israeli conflict.

## Jordanian soldier killed by patrol in West Bank

ISRAELI troops shot dead a Jordanian soldier 17 miles from Jericho, on the West Bank, yesterday, the Israeli army announced (Richard Owen writes from Jerusalem).

The army said that a second Jordanian soldier was wounded and captured in the clash south of the Damiya bridge linking Jordan to the occupied West Bank. There was,

however, no suggestion that the clash would bring an Israeli response linked to Jordan's role in the Gulf conflict.

Israeli troops and the air force are on high alert after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and the Western military build-up in the Gulf. Israel has said that it would regard the entry of Iraqi troops into Jordan as a cause

of war. Yesterday's incident appeared to be one in a series of armed clashes on the Israel-Jordan border.

There have been three such incidents so far this year, together with two attempts by Arab gunmen to infiltrate Israel from Jordan.

In Amman, a military spokesman said that two Jordanian conscripts had been missing from a guard post

in the Jordan valley since early yesterday. "We are still looking for them," he added.

The Israeli army spokesman said the Israeli patrol involved had been following suspicious footprints and had challenged the two soldiers, who had opened fire. The patrol had returned fire, killing one of the soldiers and wounding the other.

## THE BUILDUP

## Strategic needs of Gulf adversaries delay start of war

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

NO ONE is in any doubt that a war in the Middle East is now unavoidable. But until the Americans can bring in enough forces — infantry, marine and armoured — and until Iraq can switch more divisions from the north to the potential battlefield on the Kuwaiti-Saudi border, both sides have good strategic and logistic reasons for postponing conflict for at least another three or four weeks.

If the United States intends to force the Iraqis out of Kuwait by military means, they will need to mount an amphibious assault with marines, forming a bridgehead to facilitate a continuous flow of reinforcements. So far only elements of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force and the 7th Marine Expeditionary Brigade have taken up positions in Saudi Arabia.

In anticipation of a possible assault from the sea by US marines, the 24 Iraqi divisions in southern Iraq are positioned right down near the border with Kuwait overlooking Bubiyan island, according to intelligence sources. West of Kuwait, the Iraqis have no "offensive potential", the sources said.

Yesterday, Iraq withdrew more troops and armour from its 24 divisions in the north along the Iranian border to help defend its southern border against possible attack by US-led forces in Saudi Arabia. The Iranian news agency said Iraq had been working around-the-clock to move troops and hardware from the border province of Ilam.

The Iraqi withdrawal from occupied Iranian border areas has gathered pace since the former Gulf war enemies swapped further batches of prisoners-of-war. Tehran radio said 1,000 more prisoners of war arrived in Iraq yesterday, bringing the number of prisoners released by Iraq in the past three days to 3,000. Iran said it had released another 1,000 Iraqis, taking the total freed in the past two days to 2,000.

General Colin Powell, chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, continues to insist that the mission of the American forces in Saudi Arabia is to deter and to defend. So far, despite the huge buildup, the Americans have only about 30,000 combat ground troops in Saudi Arabia, although the total military presence, including naval, air force and logistics personnel, is at least 60,000. But by mid-September, the picture will be different. The aim is to have 250,000 troops in position.

If American reserves are called up, that will be the most significant sign that the US

plans an offensive against the Iraqis. Under US mobilisation plans in the event of an East-West conflict in Europe, the first batch of reserves would total 200,000 men.

However, despite the logic of postponing a military operation until all relevant forces and all appropriate logistics have been put in place, the brinkmanship now being displayed by President Saddam Hussein appears to be aimed at provoking the Americans. The threat to foreigners in Kuwait and Iraq and the orders which must have been given to captains of Iraqi merchant ships to ignore blockade challenges by British and American warships, are part of President Saddam's campaign to keep his opponents off balance.

However, President Bush's policy must also be to keep the Iraqi leader guessing. While expressing deep concern for the hostages and outrage that

they might be placed at key military installations to deter an American attack, President Bush will have been advised that his strategy for dealing with President Saddam cannot be driven by the need to safeguard the lives of the foreign nationals trapped in Kuwait and Iraq.

Although American hostage rescue teams have been sent to the Gulf region, there would appear to be no possibility of a rescue operation. "Even for a small-scale operation, you need first class intelligence on the hostages' whereabouts and in this case we don't know where they are being taken," one source said.

The source added: "Even if some were rescued, it would make it much worse for those who were left behind."

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Leading article, page 9  
Letters page 9

## CHENEY VISIT

## US warships continue to shadow Iraqi oil tankers

From JIM ADAMS OF REUTERS

RICHARD Cheney, the American defence secretary, said here yesterday that US warships were still shadowing two Iraqi tankers at which they fired warning shots on Saturday, but refused to say whether the US Navy would sink them if they continued to refuse to stop. Shots were fired across the bows of the tankers sailing out of the Gulf.

"I wouldn't want to speculate on what happens next," he said when asked what steps the navy might take if the ships refused to stop. "We obviously are prepared to see to it that the sanctions that the United Nations voted and the action that the legitimate government of Kuwait asked us to take are carried out."

The American warships

have, according to reports, been ordered to use minimum force, such as shooting out the rudders to stop the ships if necessary.

Mr Cheney later told reporters travelling with him in Bahrain, where he was spending the night, that the United States wanted voluntary compliance with the sanctions but that American warships were authorised to use force if necessary to halt goods going in and out of Iraq.

"No," he snapped when asked if the United States was backing away from President Bush's interdiction order to halt goods traffic.

"I cannot be in the position of giving you a blow-by-blow (account) of individual operational matters as they unfold,"

## Kuwaitis may join up

THOUSANDS of Kuwaiti men who escaped after the Iraqi invasion may be brought together to form new units of Peninsula Shield, the small joint defence force run by the Gulf countries (Andrew McEwen writes).

A senior Gulf source said that this possibility would be discussed at a meeting of defence ministers of the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council in Riyadh. The Ku-

waitis are in hotels and flats in Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, and Oman, but most have kept in touch with Kuwaiti embassies.

There is still some resistance inside Kuwait. Peninsula Shield at present amounts to little more than a token force with a purely defensive role, assisting the Saudi army. However, it is politically important in showing unity.

Mr Cheney said in Manama. "There is a regular process set up that comes to commanders on the scene here in the Gulf for approval to use force if necessary and those procedures are in force."

Mr Cheney said in Saudi Arabia there were no plans to send additional American forces beyond those originally planned for deployment in Saudi Arabia. He has refused to be specific about the size of the military effort, though commanders have said it is bigger than any single deployment in the Vietnam war.

"Should Saddam Hussein be foolish enough to launch an attack on Saudi Arabia, we would be able to do a very effective job of making him pay us a bit of a price for that," Mr Cheney said. "Obviously I'll be more comfortable once we've got more forces in the country."

Mr Cheney spent several hours touring a Saudi air base. Under a blazing desert sun, he stopped by an Apache attack helicopter, visited a mobile command headquarters that supervises air operations and talked with the troops.

As Mr Cheney walked around, followed by television crews, reporters and photographers, four F15 jet fighters roared off the runway, banked sharply and climbed. Mr Cheney will visit Oman today.

## NEW YORK

## Gas 'would only be used in retaliation'

From JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

IRAQ will not use chemical weapons against the United States unless the Americans use nuclear weapons first, Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi foreign minister, told CBS television at the weekend.

"If Iraq is attacked by nuclear weapons we will retaliate by chemical weapons," Mr Aziz told Dan Rather during a 90-minute interview in Baghdad on Saturday. Asked if a nuclear attack on Iraq was the only circumstance in which it would retaliate with chemical weapons, Mr Aziz said: "Yes."

Mr Rather said it was clear from the interview that the thousands of American and British citizens in Iraq and occupied Kuwait would be used as "a human shield" against a possible attack.

Mr Aziz described Iraq's decision to move foreigners to key military and industrial sites as a precautionary move. He denied that preventing foreigners from leaving amounted to an act of war.

## Fishing treaty

Honiara — The Solomon Islands have signed a fisheries access treaty with Taiwan, enabling their vessels to fish within the Solomon's 200-mile exclusive economic zone, officials said.

## AQABA

## Embargo starts to cut Saddam's last lifeline

From CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN AQABA

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein's main food and supply lifeline through the Red Sea port of Aqaba is being rapidly cut despite the unshamed willingness of many Jordanians to break sanctions and unload any kind of cargo bound for Baghdad, including weapons.

A symbol of the squeeze on a port that only last week was sending about 800 lorries a day north along the desert highway to Iraq is the 150,000-tonne, Norwegian-owned, floating grain-storage vessel, the Tanga, which was sent home last Thursday after six years in Aqaba. "It had no more goods to store," said Awad Pell, the port's director-general.

Since the embargo on Iraq was announced, trade at Aqaba has dropped by more than 60 per cent and about 5,000 lorries lie idle in improvised parks around the port.

Iraq's sole surviving land route is being cut despite the Jordanian government's failure to instruct the port authorities on how to handle Iraq-bound cargo. King Hussein, a man trapped in the middle by the Gulf confrontation, has played for time by announcing he will consult the United Nations Security Council before taking a de-

cision on sanctions. "In most cases, the owners have taken the decision for the king by stopping ships carrying goods for Iraq on the way to Aqaba," said a spokesman for Amin Kassar and Sons, the leading shipping agents in Aqaba.

"We are prepared to go on unloading goods for Iraq, but the ships bringing them are not here. In the last few days, the number has dropped to a trickle." Yesterday there were only three, one unloading sugar, another cotton, and a third which arrived on Saturday night with a cargo of paper and food.

The Jordanian government is so opposed to denying food to Iraq that yesterday an official appeal was launched in Jordan to provide milk for Iraqi children.

"Why should we be involved in a plan to starve 17 million brother Arabs?" an angry shipping executive demanded. "I would supply the Iraqis with food from my own larder. It is hypocritical for the US to expect us to keep our land border open to Iraq to help people escape, and yet not allow us to send food and medicine there."

The drop in supplies for Iraq has been so sudden that on the desert highway yesterday it was possible to drive for 20 minutes without pass-

ing an Iraq-bound truck. Only three ships were at anchor outside the port compared with a normal average of 15 to 20, and shipping agents reported little prospect of change. "One reason is that the freezing of assets means Iraq is believed not to have cash to pay for some shipments," an agent said.

Mr Pell denied that Aqaba had been an important transit point for Iraqi weaponry since 1988. "Since the end of the Gulf war, the main products in transit for Baghdad have been staple foods like grain, rice and sugar," he said.

As well as objecting politically to the idea of a blockade on Iraq, the 40,000 people of Aqaba face economic disaster as a result of the loss of Iraqi trade, which amounted to more than 50 per cent of the port's turnover and provided jobs for about 25,000 dockers and lorry drivers.

## First PLO criticism of Baghdad

From REUTERS IN ABU DHABI

A LEADING Palestine Liberation Organisation official declared yesterday that Iraq's occupation of Kuwait was illegal, the first direct criticism of Baghdad by a PLO leader. Jassid al-Ghussein, chairman of the Palestine National Fund, said: "We are against the occupation. We have, and still do, support Iraq in its national stances, but its occupation of Kuwait is an illegal act."

He added that the PLO should not take sides in the crisis. "It is not in the interests of the Palestinian people to stand with any Arab state against another Arab state."

The Palestine National Fund is the finance arm of the PLO, handling millions of dollars a year in contributions from Arab oil states. Mr al-Ghussein is an independent member of the PLO's executive committee.

Yassir Arafat, the PLO chairman, has so far declined to condemn Iraq for its invasion of Kuwait. He was in Algeria yesterday holding talks with President Chadli Benjedid, apparently discussing a Gulf mediation plan.

## RIYADH

## Attack on Saudi airbase would give pretext for heavy retribution

From ANDREW MCEWEN, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR, IN RIYADH

LANDING in the dark at the huge airbase in Riyadh, the plane swept by the silhouettes of scores of military aircraft lined up beside the runway. First to come into view were three Boeing Awacs early-warning planes, easily recognisable by the saucer-shaped antennae perched on their backs. Then came a concrete park crowded with planes drawn up in ranks, as if ready to take off in formation, followed by several huge CSAs, the biggest US-built transports. Then came three more Awacs.

A senior Western official viewed the scene with dismay. "If the Iraqis attacked this lot, it would be another Pearl Harbor," he said. Two well-aimed Scud missiles could have destroyed most of Saudi Arabia's early-warning capability and many other Saudi

and American aircraft. But that would need an accuracy that the Saudis may not have.

What seems more likely is that an attack would cause limited damage, while providing the US, Saudi Arabia and Britain with a reason for overwhelming retaliation. As the airbase is surrounded by the city, the missiles might cause more civilian rather than military casualties.

The lack of precautions against any attack may reflect the speed of the US build-up and a lack of time to disperse planes to safer locations. But it could also show over-confidence in the Saudi ability to predict and pre-empt a surprise attack.

The Saudis have five Awacs, which they operate themselves after years of training by the United States. Others have been brought in

by the US in the past two weeks. At least one must have been in the air while we were on the ground, since a tanker plane used for refuelling the Awacs in flight took off, using the entire runway to gather speed because of its heavy cargo.

Diplomatic sources point out that early warning from Awacs would give time to intercept a conventional air attack, but not one carried out by Scuds. They added that if the Riyadh base looked as tempting target, Dhahran must be an even juicier one since it had a much greater concentration of aircraft.

Our plane, an RAF VC10 tanker, had landed there because of an air-traffic control mistake. It was to have come down at Riyadh international airport ten miles away to drop off General Sir



Mr Clark: strengthening ties with smaller Gulf nations

Richard Vincent, Vice Chief of Defence Staff, for talks with Air Vice-Marshal Sandy Wilson, Air Commander British Forces Arabian Peninsula. Air traffic control assumed because it was an RAF plane it should go to the military base. But many of the 18 passengers

were civilians, including Alan Clark, minister for defence procurement.

Mr Clark returned to Britain yesterday after visiting three countries in four days. Britain is strengthening its ties with the smaller Gulf countries amid fears that President Saddam may use a mixture of threats and promises to weaken their unity. Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, will make a similar visit at the end of the month.

On the last leg of his 8,000-mile journey, Mr Clark said the visit had come just in time to prevent Qatar, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates gaining the impression that they were being overlooked.

The aircraft and personnel Britain has sent to the Gulf are in Saudi Arabia and Oman, but there is a high risk of Iraqi threats against the others. Although they condemned the

Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, they did so as members of the six-nation Gulf Co-operation Council.

The three states have assured Mr Clark of their support for US-British policy and have confirmed that their airfields would be available. No request for British forces was made by Qatar, but Bahrain agreed that British frigates should be rotated between its airfields and Dhahran in Saudi Arabia. The outcome of Mr Clark's talks with the rulers of Abu Dhabi and Dubai in the United Arab Emirates was not disclosed.

Mr Clark confirmed that the Armilla Patrol had been cleared to use force to stop ships suspected of breaking trade sanctions. "Ships have authority if necessary to use appropriate levels of force," he said.

Mr Clark visited HMS Ju-

pter at Jebel Ali, the UAE's main port, which is regularly used by the patrol. Petty Officer George Malcolmson, who runs the Jupiter's electronic warfare department, said they were concerned about air attack. "These ships were designed to work together in the North Atlantic in groups, to protect each other, under the United Kingdom air defence system," he said. In the Gulf, American early-warning aircraft would provide some notice of an Iraqi attack. The Jupiter, a Leander-class frigate, carries Seawolf anti-missile missiles capable of stopping Exocets.

The patrol may also be threatened by fast armed boats of the Iraqi navy. "The coast is infested with smugglers in fast boats coming over from Oman to Iran. It's difficult to know whether they are hostile or not," he said.



## Helpline tells relatives not to be panicked by scare stories

By MICHAEL HORSNELL AND PAUL WILKINSON

THE group providing an information lifeline for thousands of relatives of Britons trapped in Iraq and Kuwait told anxious callers yesterday not to be panicked by unconfirmed reports from the Gulf.

A spokeswoman for the Gulf Support Group, which is operating a bank of telephones from a small office in the New Connaught Rooms in London, said that people should be wary of "shock horror stories" about the rounding up of detainees by Iraqi soldiers for transfer to strategic locations.

She said the distress of families waiting for news of the fate of relatives caught up by events in the Gulf fed on unconfirmed reports which may well turn out to be false. "It is crucial that families of detainees should know where they are and the support group will continue to pass on to them verified information as it becomes available. We stress that unconfirmed reports should not be too readily believed."

Giving advice to relatives has become a round-the-clock exercise. Normally Joanna Copley manages the office of a small London computer firm, but in the world turned upside down by Iraq she has become agony aunt for those desperate for news.

She is a leading light in the support group, a mixture of volunteers and professional counsellors, fielding calls from anxious relatives and providing information, advice and, most important, comfort. It grew out of the efforts of Robert Kingswood, MP for Bristol Kingswood, who has a close friend stranded in Kuwait, and Miss Copley's own BA Flight 149 support group, set up to secure information on her sister Katherine and other passengers on the British Airways jet trapped at Kuwait airport.

Four telephone lines have been provided by British Telecom. Most of the callers are women, anxious for news of their husbands.

"We try to pass on as much information as we can, but most of

all we try to reassure people," Miss Copley said. "Many are keen just to talk, sharing a few details of their home life or what job their husband was doing in the Gulf."

Working with her is her husband Tony Moorby, who is on indefinite leave from his job as a tax consultant with a firm of City accountants, and her brother Jonathan, who has been released from his university vacation job as a psychiatric hospital porter to help.

Every call, taken by the team in four-hour shifts, is treated in strict confidence to protect those still held captive. Details originally kept on a card index have been transferred to a computer database. "When people ring in I can talk knowledgeably about the part of town their relative was last in and that helps reassure people," Mr Moorby said.

The group's sources of information are scant. Arrangements with some of the main international news agencies provide some details and they have regular meetings with the Foreign Office. But their main input comes from people who have escaped.

A big boost for the group was a call from a Baghdad hotel with messages of reassurance from Britons detained there. Occasionally the international lines are reconnected and the hotel staff are quick to inform the residents the lines are up.

Finance has so far not been a problem. One firm with Gulf links has made a donation and much of the equipment and staff come free. But Mr Hayward gave a warning that if the group was forced to operate for some time its need for cash would grow.

The number of people the group has helped reached four figures within days of the start of the crisis. "We don't know just how many there are held out there, but frankly that's not our problem. We're just here to help anyone who is worried," Mr Hayward added.

The group's numbers are: 071-430 9920/9921/2506 and 2562.



Two Britons who escaped from Kuwait, after their arrival at Gatwick airport yesterday with tales of subterfuge and courage. Jenny King (left), aged 28, from Luton, Bedfordshire, made her dash to freedom with nine others on Friday. They disguised themselves as Bedouins, the men dressed in long cloaks, and the women dyeing their hair and wearing full Arab headresses. Miss King, who went to Kuwait in January to work as a hotel recreation manager, said the invasion happened "very quickly indeed". "The hotel was on the beach and by the middle of the day we were surrounded by tanks, jeeps and soldiers. The BBC World Service has been our only link with the outside world, and every single word is dissected until the next hour's new bulletin. When we heard on Thursday that the Iraqis had ordered westerners to

go to hotels we decided that was an obvious invitation to become hostages, and we were not prepared to become that. It was a very traumatic journey, and when it was finished we still could not believe it was over," she said. David Smith (right), who drove to freedom, said he came terrifyingly close to Iraqi soldiers as he escaped across the desert. At one point he was detained by an excited Iraqi soldier who held a gun to his head before eventually letting him go. Mr Smith, from Scotland, added: "You're looking up and a barrel's looking down at you and this guy is shouting. I didn't really know what was going to happen next." Several times he nearly ran over tanks almost buried in the sand, he said. "The turret would open and a head would come out. But by that time my Chevy was a cloud of dust," he added.

## World Service gives listeners a radio lifeline

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

SINCE the BBC World Service was launched in 1932 as the Empire Service, there have been few occasions when its listeners in Kuwait and Iraq have tuned in and listened more avidly to its broadcasts.

Escapees from the Gulf have testified that the English language broadcasts from Bush House, where executives wryly point out that excellence is pursued at "four-pence-a-penny" per programme, have remained their only reliable source of news.

The information lifeline has been extended by four-and-a-half hours to round-the-clock broadcasting in English and by 90 minutes to ten-and-a-half hours per day in Arabic.

In line with long-held policy, the English language service relays to British nationals abroad advice and information from the Foreign Office in times of crisis.

Thus yesterday listeners heard that the British Embassy in Kuwait had "received clarification from the Iraqi authorities of the instructions being broadcast by local radio stations for all Westerners to report to various hotels in Kuwait."

"The Iraqis have said those who report to the hotels will be transferred to what are described as key installations in Kuwait and Iraq."

The bulletin, however, went on to relay Foreign Office advice that expatriates should remain at home and maintain a low profile but to offer no resistance if attempts are made to move them forcibly.

A spokesman for the world service, which employs 30 in its

Arabic section, said: "We are now broadcasting right through the night so we are quite keyed up. We are not taking on any more staff, just having to work harder."

Intermittent attempts have been made by the Iraqis to jam the Arabic broadcasts, which have up to ten million listeners, from a powerful transmitter south of Baghdad but these have had only limited success.

Ironically the importance of Bush House to British nationals in Iraq and Kuwait coincides with attempts by the Treasury to seek spending cuts.

The Gulf crisis is expected to be used by John Tusa, managing director of the BBC World Service, as a powerful negotiating weapon in talks on the next three-year budget.

The spokesman said: "We have received an awful lot of endorsements for what we are doing. People always specially tune at times of crisis like these. It is interesting that in a sense you only come into your own in a time of emergency but that is only possible because you are there all the time and earn your reputation then. You can't just turn on and off."

For only the second time since the second world war, the world service is to make short-wave frequencies available for broadcasts with messages home for British servicemen in the Gulf.

The government, advised by the Foreign Office, gives the world service about £120 million a year and lets it get on with the business of broadcasting in 37 languages around the globe.

## Exiled editor says he is printing resistance newspaper

By JOHN YOUNG

THE editor of the Kuwaiti newspaper *Al-Qabas*, who is producing his publication from west London after leaving his home for a European holiday the day before the Iraqi invasion, said yesterday that he saw it as a resistance newspaper. "Saddam is playing power politics. If we cannot defeat him, at least we can make him bleed," Mohammed Al Rumaihi said yesterday.

Before the invasion by Iraq, the tiny state of Kuwait boasted five Arabic and two English daily newspapers, he said. "We have traditionally had a very liberal attitude

towards freedom of speech and expression," Mr Al Rumaihi said.

*Al-Qabas* was one of the biggest newspapers, with a circulation of about 100,000 locally and 20,000 abroad, he said. An international edition was started in London in 1985.

For the past week Mr Al Rumaihi and half a dozen colleagues have been producing a four-page broad sheet in London using printing facilities and technical assistance provided by the Saudi newspaper *Asharq Al-Awsat*. His newspaper is also being printed in Saudi Arabia, Cairo and New York. He acknowledged the difficulties of running a

newspaper with a tiny staff, and said that his stories came from a variety of sources, including newspapers in other Arab countries, international news agencies and correspondents in other Gulf states.

He said that he was also getting news out of Kuwait, by means he was unwilling to disclose, and produced pictures that he said were taken inside occupied Kuwait. He said that the Iraqis were setting up concentration camps for foreigners trapped in Kuwait, especially British and Americans.

Mr Al Rumaihi said that another Kuwaiti newspaper, *Al-Anba*, had started printing in Cairo, and that others are expected to start

elsewhere this week. The Iraqi government had protested about the use of "illegitimate" material and had threatened to blow up the premises of newspapers in exile, he said.

*Al-Qabas* had carried a number of stories from foreigners escaping Kuwait, including Egyptians, Indians and Filipinos. The newspaper was also carrying information for Kuwaitis abroad, including the fact that tickets on Kuwait Airlines were valid on Saudi Arabian Airlines and Gulf Air. They were being encouraged to fly to other Gulf states where accommodation would be available, and where younger people in exile could train for future military action.

# MERCEDES-BENZ 1ST AND 2ND AGAIN



NURBURGRING, GERMANY - SUNDAY 19 AUGUST 1990:

THE MERCEDES-BENZ SPORTS CAR TEAM CONTINUED ITS DOMINANCE OF THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP HERE TODAY. JEAN-LOUIS Schlesser and MAURO BALDI FINISHED FIRST, AHEAD OF TEAM-MATES JOCHEN MASS AND MICHAEL SCHUMACHER IN AN EMPHATIC DISPLAY OF SUPERIORITY. HAVING QUALIFIED AHEAD OF THE OPPOSITION, THE TWO SILVER MERCEDES LED THE TWO AND A HALF HOUR RACE FROM START TO FINISH, WINNING BY A WHOLE LAP. THIS WAS THE FIFTH RACE THE MERCEDES SPORTS CAR TEAM HAVE WON THIS YEAR.

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Bream, the last village in the Forest of Dean to see its pits closed, has higher than average unemployment for the county. The small stone

go to Sunday school, they join the "J squad". Traditional hymns have been replaced by gospel songs and a choir by a small guitar-led group. Half the congregation's generous donations go to

For the service Mr Rees wore grey trousers, a shirt and tie and a navy blue round neck sweater.

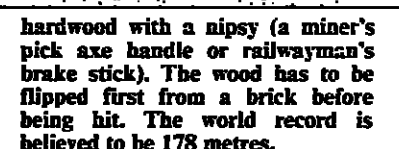
hospitals. He no longer takes anti-depressants or tranquillisers. "This church follows the Bible and the word of God. I come here because I believe in God. Before, I felt there was nothing for me in this world, there was no purpose and no point."

**By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT**

# White

By ALAN HAMILTON

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 10.00: Monaco Dr 15.00: Norway Kr  
 14.00: Pakistan Rps 18: Portugal Esc  
 220: Spain Pst 220: Sweden Skr  
 14.00: Switzerland S Frs 3.80:  
 U.S. \$2.50.



**By KERRY GILL**

Mr Crawley, who had whip-lash injuries, had gone to bed in a neighbouring maisonnette, which was damaged in the blast, when he heard an bang and was pinned down by masonry. Nobody was at home in the two demolished maisonnettes. The people slightly hurt were neighbours. The cause is being investigated and the gas mains supply has been isolated.



By MICHAEL MCCARTHY, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

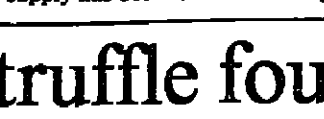
This was widely considered to reflect the position of the United States, the Soviet Union, Japan and Saudi Arabia, which have appeared to be more conscious than European Community nations of the difficulties and costs of countering global warming. The final IPCC report will be an amalgam of the conclusions of the three working

probably be prepared to stick his neck out and I think in the end Americans may come on board.

"What we must have is a strong statement of the need for the industrialised countries to take unilateral action to counter global warming now. Unless we get that, we will not get the co-operation of the developing countries, which will be increasingly

By NIGEL HAWKES  
SCIENCE EDITOR

In recent years it has also set up a vigorous youth group and, with the Royal Society and the Royal Institution, a committee to improve the public understanding of science.



By ALAN HAMILTON

David Hollingsworth, a second-year student at Bishop Burton college of agriculture, was digging a garden in the Hessle district of Hull, now unwillingly consigned to the county of Humberside, when from a rockery under a holly tree he uncovered a 20 grammes (0.7 oz) white truffle. The identity of the precious fungus has

White truffles command a high price, those harvested in late autumn in the Alba district of Piedmont, Italy, sell in London for £750 lb. Summer truffles are less prized, and are

generally sold only locally in Italy. Matthew Pinhey, a director of Porter's the Yorkshire food firm which identified the Hull truffle, said there was no mistaking its scent. By the time Mr Hollingsworth brought it to him it had shrunk to 15 grammes (0.5 oz), but it was still an excellent specimen, not least because it was out of season.

Although much prized, the white truffle still takes second place, at least in French cookery, to the Perigord truffle, *uber melanosporum*. Truffles have been savoured as a delicacy since classical times. Piny regarded them as among the most wonderful of all

things, living as they do without a root. The Roman gourmet Caelius Apicius gave six recipes for cooking them.

Mr Hollingsworth, who learned at the weekend that he had gained a distinction in his second-year examinations, said yesterday: "I found the truffle in a very dry, well-drained and exposed part of a large garden, a high rocky near a holly tree. I have kept it in a jar of rice since finding it, which is what experts recommend."

The French traditionally use pigs to sniff out truffles. A whole new career may be opening up for Yorkshire terriers.

**Global Warming: The Greenpeace Report.** (Oxford University Press: £5.95)

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## Exams for pupils on all GCSE courses

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

EXAMINATIONS are to be compulsory in all GCSE courses under new regulations published today to counter criticism that some courses rely too heavily on work done throughout the year at home and that pupils are being helped by parents or teachers. Final examinations will now have to account for at least 30 per cent of marks, with course work providing at least 20 per cent. The remaining 50 per cent can be accounted for by other examinations taken during the two-year course. At present, some courses require no examination at all.

The new regulations have been introduced by the Schools Examination and Assessment Council after John MacGregor, the education secretary, had asked it to consider all GCSE regulations. The new rules will apply to courses beginning in September 1992 in English, maths and science to bring them into line with the requirements of the national curriculum in 1994.

The GCSE grading system will also be changed from 1994 when it becomes the means of testing children at 16 under the national curriculum. The old grading system from A to G, with the U mark for papers that were too poor to be graded, will be replaced by grades one to ten.

Grades 9 and 10 will replace A grades with 10 being of a higher standard than the present A. Grades A-C,

roughly equivalent to O-level passes, will be replaced by grades 7-10.

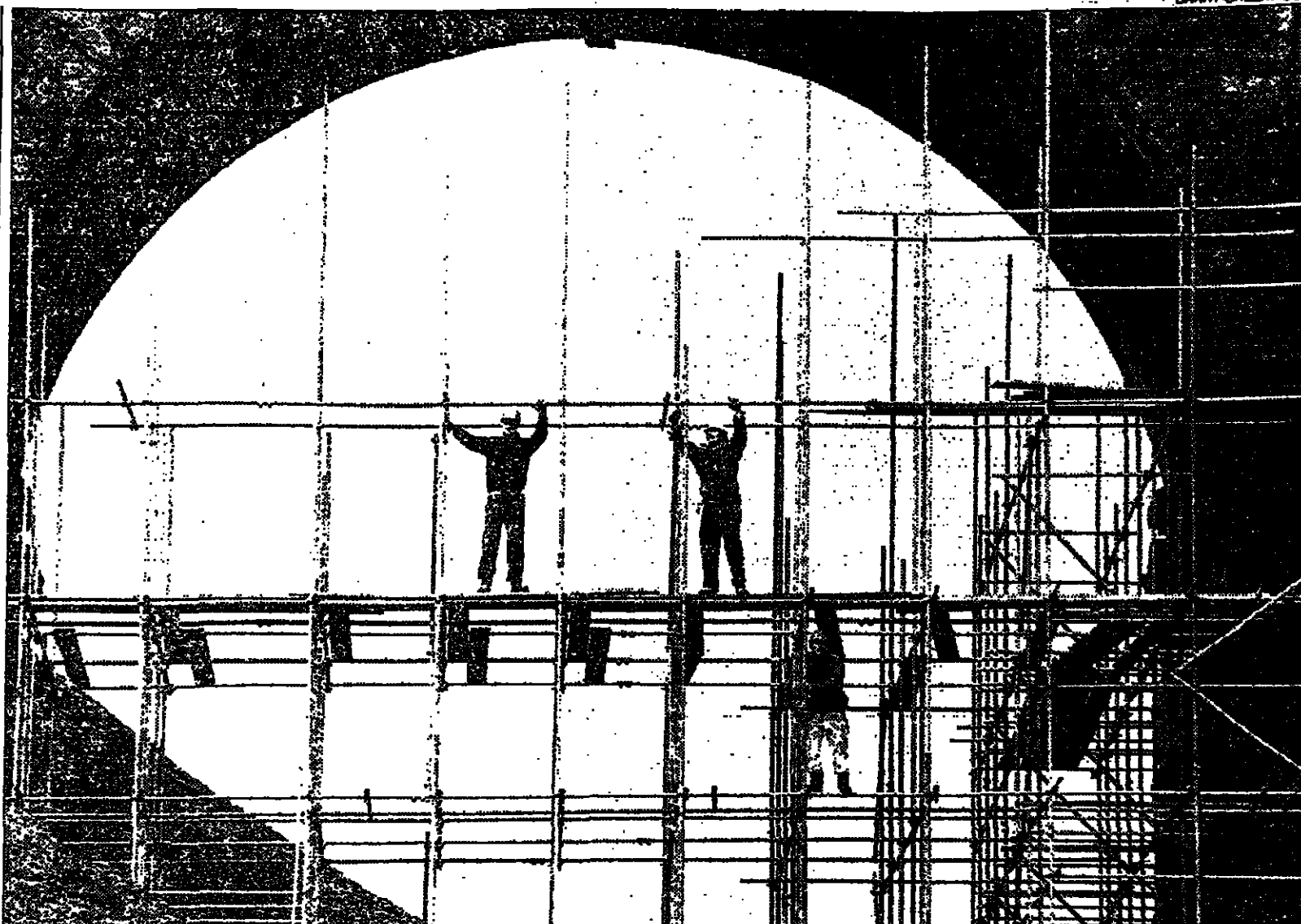
American, Bangladeshi, Caribbean, Dutch, and Danish teachers will join others from Australia, New Zealand and Ireland in schools throughout London in September to combat the teacher shortage.

Incentive allowances, costing up to £2 million for each borough, have been introduced to recruit sufficient teachers. They have been offered assistance with accommodation, a full month's salary before starting work and a £750 London allowance.

Dutch teachers will work in Lambeth, Hounslow, Newham and Greenwich; 35 Americans have joined Islington and six have gone to Camden; 44 Trinidadians are due in Hackney, while Southwark has concentrated on Australian and New Zealanders.

While overseas recruiting has been successful, home-based campaigns have generally failed, the Labour-controlled Association of London Boroughs says. Few women have been attracted back to the classroom and only a small number of teachers replied to a £250,000 recruitment campaign. The one exception was Hounslow where women returners filled more than a third of primary vacancies.

Back to school, pages 12, 13  
Education, pages 24, 25



Underneath the arches: scaffolders begin work at Ribbleshead viaduct on a £2 million project to repair the 24-arch Yorkshire Dales landmark

## Homeless increase forecast under Labour

By CHRISTOPHER WARMAN  
PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

A LABOUR government would reverse the expansion of the private rental market, made since the 1988 Housing Act came into force, to allow assured tenancies at market rents, the Association of Residential Letting Agents said yesterday.

The association was commenting after Clive Soley, Labour's housing spokesman, had indicated at a briefing that his party would introduce legislation returning the market to the

control of rent tribunals. The association said it was clear that Labour intended to reintroduce rent controls abolished by the Housing Act and to give tenants back the right to claim security of tenure, and that the present assured tenancies and assured short-term tenancies would be repealed and BES (Business Efficiency Schemes) housing schemes would be discontinued. Mr Soley said the legislation would not be retrospective and that it was unlikely to be introduced before the second year of a new parliament.

Judienne Wood, chairman of the association, said: "Just when it looked as if private letting was really beginning to take off following the deregulation brought in by the 1988 Housing Act, here we are facing the bad old days again."

"People will again be frightened to rent because they will rightly fear that they will never get their properties back." She forecast a consequent increase in homelessness.

The question of homelessness is dealt with today in a report by an

alliance of urban and rural groups. It concludes that land should be specially earmarked for affordable housing in urban and rural England.

In *Home Truths*, the Council for the Protection of Rural England and Communities and Homes in Central London call for a new planning mechanism, introducing a new "use class" category to define in local authority plans where housing can be built which is permanently available for those who cannot afford market prices.

## Unification may revive EC budget disputes

By MICHAEL HORNBY  
AGRICULTURE  
CORRESPONDENT

THE imminent incorporation of East Germany into West Germany could revive the disputes of the early 1980s between Britain and its EC partners over budget contributions, a study published today by the Institute of Economic Affairs predicts.

The claims of a united Germany on EC farm spending will mount rapidly, shifting the main financial burden onto Britain, according to the report's author, Richard Howarth, lecturer in agricultural economics at the University College of North Wales.

"East Germany has tremendous agricultural potential (being formerly the breadbasket of pre-war Germany), which the common agricultural policy's high prices and subsidies will unlock. West Germany could soon cease to be the paymaster of Europe's budget, leaving the UK as the biggest net contributor," he writes.

The closer relations being sought with the EC by East Europe offer Britain its best opportunity to escape from the common agricultural policy (CAP) or at least to change its highly protectionist form, Mr Howarth argues.

"It is extremely doubtful if a highly regulated CAP could ever be applied to all these countries... The conglomerate would be too disparate and too unwieldy. Even if they were only permitted a free trade area, their agricultural impact would seal the fate of the existing CAP."

*Forming for Farmers?* (Richard Howarth, Institute of Economic Affairs, 2 Lord North Street, London SW1P 3LB, £10.95 plus 50p p&h)

## The quiet revolution of Whitehall speeded up

MARGARET Thatcher is accelerating her quiet revolution of the civil service with plans for a further 30 government departments, employing 211,480 staff, to opt out of the central Whitehall bureaucracy by becoming free-standing executive agencies.

The prime minister, as head of the civil service, is poised to create a permanent break-up in the ranks of Britain's 498,000 civil servants. The ultimate target is to have three out of every four civil servants working for agencies that carry out public service functions but have an "arms length" relationship with central government.

At least half the civil service is on course to become executive agencies by the end of next year. Since 1988 a total of 33 agencies has been set up, employing 80,750 civil servants. Peter Kemp, the project manager in charge of the transfer, has said that his aim is to have 100 agencies established.

The new candidates for opting out include the defence research agency, the central statistical office, royal parks, the national health service estates office and the passport office. There will also be a partial reform of the 29,000-strong Customs and Excise service and of the main duties of the Inland Revenue, a department that employs 89,000 staff.

The concept of executive agencies came from the *Next Steps* initiative proposed by Sir Robin Ibbs' government efficiency unit in an attempt to infuse the "civil service culture" with Thatcherite entrepreneurial spirit.

The relocation of more civil servants away from London and the South-East, and the demise of hundreds of quasi non-governmental organisations (quangos) are also part of the revolution designed to leave White-

The prime minister wants a further 211,480 civil servants to work for executive agencies, as Sheila Gunn reports

hall with only a few thousand policy makers.

The new emphasis will be on exploiting any profit-making potential while improving services to the customer. From the autumn the agencies will be publishing annual reports.

The Commons treasury and civil service committee described the reforms as the "most ambitious attempt at civil service reform in the 20th century". The cross-party committee of MPs said, however, that the transfer must not dilute ministerial accountability. The MPs have asked for a full Commons debate on the implications of the reform.

John Garrett, Labour MP for Norwich South and a member of the committee, has said that the government is merely replacing quangos with partially independent non-governmental organisations (pingos). "It is ironic that, having abolished many quangos, the government is now setting up scores of pingos. I am concerned about just how accountable the chief executives of these agencies will be to Parliament."



Garrett fears about chief executives' accountability

ment. However, it would be difficult to abolish pingos if Labour came into power because it is a system which cannot be unpicked."

The *Sir Humphreys* and the civil service unions are sceptical about the reforms. The Council of Civil Service Unions told the committee that agency staff still see themselves as civil servants and are worried about the prospect of agency staff being paid less than the nationally set civil service rates.

The committee found no evidence during a recent enquiry that the reforms were leading to the "Thatcherisation" of Whitehall. Richard Luce, the former civil service minister, when questioned by the committee, said: "I do not think it is unreasonable for secretaries of state to take a close interest in the type of person who is being appointed [as chief executive]."

The potential for bringing executives from business and industry in to run the agencies is seen as another route for attracting potential top mandarins from outside. For the revolution to work, the Commons committee wants hands-on managers to have equal status with traditional top policy-making civil servants.

Norman Lamont, chief secretary to the Treasury, said: "I am not saying we would rush into paying people exactly the same as the private sector candidates, but we do want the post of chief executive to be open to the private sector."

Mr Kemp is also aware of the danger of the government setting up new bureaucracies to shadow the agencies. He has predicted that, after completing his task of setting up the agencies, there will have to be some kind of organisation that would "keep people awake, to throw grit in their faces from time to time."

## Poverty figures 'doctored'

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE "poverty lobby" is today accused by a leading free-market economist of doctoring statistics to justify redistributive taxation policies. Dr David Green of the Institute of Economic Affairs argues that the real aim of such policies is the "equalisation" of people and the buttressing of the state, rather than the relief of hardship. He says these goals have been hidden beneath a "smokescreen of compassionate talk about relieving poverty."

Dr Green, director of the institute's health and welfare unit, takes issue with the "oft-repeated claim" that one third of the country is poor. He says that this figure, cited by the Child Poverty Action Group, is based on misleading use of language. "The facts are that 5

per cent of the population is below the supplementary benefit level, about 11 per cent live on it and a further 19 per cent live on incomes up to 40 per cent above the supplementary benefit level."

Dr Green maintains that there is no justification for including those above the benefit level among the poor, and he is also critical of claims that the poor have become poorer under the Conservatives because supplementary benefit levels have not risen as fast as average earnings.

He says the facts do not, as many commentators believe, support the conclusion that the "trickle down" effect, under which all benefits derive from a prosperous economy, is a myth. "It may or

may not be a bad thing that supplementary benefit levels rose less rapidly than average earnings, but either way "falling" remains distinct from "rising". There is a difference between being at or below the supplementary benefit level and being up to 40 per cent above it.

In his pamphlet *Why social justice threatens liberty* (David Green, Institute of Economic Affairs, 2 Lord North Street, London SW1P 3LB, £3.95),

*Equalising people: Why social justice threatens liberty* (David Green, Institute of Economic Affairs, 2 Lord North Street, London SW1P 3LB, £3.95).

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MORTGAGES WITH ABBEY ENDINGS



# Tense lull in townships as death toll reaches 275

From RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

THERE was a tense lull in South Africa's black townships yesterday, although a group of reporters in Soweto, on Johannesburg's southern border, were horrified when about 20 black youths stabbed and beat a Zulu before their eyes, then poured petrol over him and set him alight.

The death toll in the townships climbed overnight on Saturday to at least 275 with more than 1,500 people wounded and hundreds left homeless in one of the worst weeks of black-against-black violence in the country for many years. The most seriously affected area at the weekend was Soweto, where the number of known dead rose from 22 on Friday to 78 yesterday.

The crime of the man attacked by the youths in front of reporters in the West Jabavu area was to have a pistol. The youths believed him to be one of the migrant Zulu workers living in hostels in the huge township who have been in battles with local residents.

The assault began when the taxi carrying the Zulu suddenly reversed down a barricaded street in an area that has seen much fighting. Their interest aroused, the local youths stopped the minivan and searched its occupants. They found the Zulu clutching a pistol in a paper bag.

The driver and other passengers were freed, but the youths showed no mercy to the Zulu, aged about 40. Speaking Zulu, they repeatedly asked him why he had the weapon. He offered no explanation and began to cry. The mob dragged the man

into a nearby barricaded street and hit him with rocks and slashed and stabbed him with pangas. "Where did you get that gun?" they shouted. Getting no satisfactory answer, they poured petrol over him and set him alight.

The man, his skin smouldering and his head bleeding heavily, was still alive when an ambulance took him from the scene of the attack, which was not particularly cruel or unusual by the grim standards of the townships.

At Tokoza, on the eastern Witwatersrand, about 35 miles from Johannesburg, there was renewed fighting at the weekend between Zulu migrants, who are mainly supporters of the Inkatha movement, and Xhosa, who are generally identified as supporting the African National Congress. Reports put the death toll at 27.

"We were just drinking and being happy," said Steven, a Zulu armed with two spears and a shield. "They came to kill us. They came to drive us out but we will kill them."

A mob of 1,500 Zulus beat axes and spears against their shields and chanted war cries before going into action. Some Xhosa bodies were castrated and had their hands cut off.

An ominous new cry is being chanted by the Zulus, "Xhosa" an indication of the extent to which the tribalised fighting is being politically manipulated.

Nelson Mandela, the deputy president of the ANC, is a Xhosa, but there is still no indication of or when he will meet Chief Mangosuthu Buthe, the leader of Inkatha.

A proposed peace forum, which was set up after urgent talks between Mr Mandela and Adrian Vlok, the minister of law and order, last Thursday, appears to have been shelved indefinitely. The forum was to consist of representatives of all parties involved in the violence, including the police.

Police and troop reinforcements have been poured into the townships, but some residents have accused them of bias, claiming they have ignored heavily armed Zulu impi, sometimes escorting them, while systematically dismissing the criticism, saying that they are doing their best to end the violence.

English-language newspapers yesterday reported that two young, white sergeants walked to the middle of a football field and negotiated a truce between Zulus and residents squaring up at opposite sides of the pitch.

The Zulus accused residents of attacking them and burning their hostels. "We haven't slept for three days," their spokesman said. "We are here to work, not to fight. But if they don't leave us alone we will go out there and do something."

As residents on the edge of the pitch performed the *toyitoyi*, the ANC liberation dance, the policemen negotiated with delegations from both sides. It was agreed that there would be no fighting, but both sides demanded police protection.

In Vereeniging, south of Johannesburg, and in Welkom, a gold-mining town in the Orange Free State, thousands of blacks took part in protest marches through the streets on Saturday morning. White right-wing extremists had threatened to cause havoc but police and troops were out in force and there were no serious incidents.

## Tamils get offer of protection

Colombo — A Tamil guerrilla group, the Democratic People's Liberation Front, has offered to mobilise 500 of its fighters to protect Tamil villages in the island's eastern province after armed Muslim gangs ransacked 200 Tamil homes in Batticaloa district (Vijitha Yapa writes).

The Muslim attack last week was seen as an apparent retaliation for the killing of about 300 Muslims over the past three weeks by Tamil Tiger guerrillas. The Democratic People's Liberation Front is a to the Tigers.

## Coup rumours

Manila — Four bombs exploded in separate parts of the Philippines capital as the military remained on red alert amid rumours of a coup attempt, officials said. President Aquino has weathered six military rebellions since he came to power in Manila in 1986. (AFP)

## Hess clashes

Wunsiedel, West Germany — Hundreds of neo-Nazis marking the third anniversary of Rudolf Hess' death clashed with a group of left-wingers holding a counter-demonstration. Police said that they arrested 46 people in this town where Hitler's former deputy is buried. (AP)

## Begin better

Jerusalem — Menachem Begin, the former prime minister of Israel, was discharged from hospital and was moving to Tel Aviv at his family's request. Mr Begin, aged 77, has been recovering from a broken right hip since he fell in his home in July. His condition was described as good. (AP)

## Kenya enquiry

Nairobi — Kenya's Attorney-General has ordered a public enquiry into the death of Bishop Alexander Muge, a government critic who died in a road accident after death threats from Peter Ouko, the labour minister. Church leaders and lawyers suggested foul play in the death. (AP)

## Rail protest

Marseilles — Widespread protests against plans to bring high-speed trains to the Provence region left about 20,000 railway passengers stranded, French officials said. The protesters fear that the new line through Provence to Marseilles will destroy the region's scenic beauty. (AP)

## Amazon reserve

Brasilia — Brazil is to set aside almost 12 million acres of land for the Caiapo Indians, making their Amazon reserve one of the largest in the world, an Indian spokesman said on Saturday. With the expansion, the Caiapos will occupy some 27 million acres. (AFP)



Sharp reminder: Norbert Blum, left, the West German labour minister, Jozsef Antall, Hungary's prime minister, and Lothar de Maiziere, his East German counterpart, at the Austro-Hungarian border in Sopron at the weekend, exactly a year after the exodus of East Germans began

## Gorbachev seeks allies by righting wrongs

—MOSCOW COMMENTARY—

MARY DEJEVSKY

PRESIDENT Gorbachev issued two decrees last week, each annulling actions of previous Soviet leaders. The first rehabilitated whole categories of people condemned to death or to prison camps by Stalin. The second rescinded orders issued by Brezhnev and his successors which stripped Alexander Solzhenitsyn and 22 other cultural figures and dissidents of their Soviet citizenship.

Both moves were explained by the urgent need to right past wrongs. Soviet commentators asked how the country could build a democratic law-governed state and restore moral standards if such glaring injustices are not overturned.

The elevated rhetoric about noble ideals and the recovery of lost moral standards is not without truth. How can the Soviet leadership preach justice and honour when some of its most honorable citizens and former citizens are the victims of continuing lies and injustice? But it is not the whole truth. The justified rejoicing in Soviet cultural circles and abroad over the presidential decrees does not obviate the need to ask the perennial political questions: who benefits from Mr Gorbachev's undoing of his predecessors' misdeeds, and why has he chosen to act now?

The obvious answer to the first question is that the chief beneficiaries are all those unjustly killed or persecuted, their relatives and their

friends, all of whom will have suffered by association. The obvious answer to the second is that resistance within the leadership prevented President Gorbachev from reversing the injustices before and his summer holiday gave him time to sign the decrees.

These explanations should not, however, be accepted uncritically. Not all those who benefit from the two decrees are likely to be satisfied. The families of some of the rehabilitated victims of Stalin may well turn round and demand something more tangible than the restoration of their family's good name.

As for the restoration of citizenship, controversy has already arisen in Mr Solzhenitsyn's case. Did he agree to the return of a Soviet passport or not? Anyway, the brevity of the list is said to reflect the desire of the Soviet authorities to offer restoration of citizenship only to those enforced exiles who actually want it back.

The only 100 per cent beneficiary of last week's decrees is the person who issued them: President Gorbachev. The latest batch of rehabilitations relates to three quite specific categories of people: so-called kulaks, peasants condemned for working too

hard and earning too much money; clergy and religious believers; and ethnic minorities who were deported from their homeland en masse. All these groups comprise people the Soviet leadership particularly needs on its side.

On present-day kulaks will depend the fortunes of planned agricultural reforms, which are designed to encourage entrepreneurship and independence. Aggrieved ethnic minorities are causing endless difficulties for the leadership, both by agitating to return to their native areas and by claiming back land and houses after being permitted to return. Local authorities need clearer guidance about their status.

The churches, primarily the Russian Orthodox Church, but other Christian denominations as well, are attracting unprecedented public support. Opinion polls show them to be among the institutions most trusted by people around the country. Hours of Soviet television are now devoted to religion and religious activities; the price of bibles and religious literature on the black market is continually rising. The church is a force which the leadership cannot afford to push into opposition.

The dispute as to whether Mr Solzhenitsyn agreed to the restoration of his citizenship indicates clearly where the initiative for his rehabilitation originated and how much im-

portance the leadership attaches to harnessing the chronicle of the Gulag to its cause. The author is regarded in Russia — as a prophet and sage. His return would occasion scenes reminiscent of the Pope's first return to Poland.

The announcement that Mr Solzhenitsyn's citizenship had been restored was followed by the publication of a letter to him from the Russian Federation's prime minister, Ivan Silayev, inviting him to return as his personal guest. "It is precisely the interests of the state and its long-term fate which require me to ask you and your family to accept my invitation," it said. "Now, when the conflicts of which Russian life is woven have reached their height and threaten a new schism, your return to Russia would be as essential to our homeland as air."

Mr Silayev's appeal could be interpreted as an attempt by the Russian Federation to prevent President Gorbachev from claiming all the credit. However, it also helps to answer the question of why he has acted now. In the present climate of disintegration and discord, the president could delay no longer. Having played the kulak, church and Solzhenitsyn cards, however, he has little left in his hand for the future.

Leading article, page 9

## Taylor 'will join peace talks'

From REUTER IN HARBEL, LIBERIA

CHARLES Taylor, the Liberian rebel leader, is to fly to Banjul, the Gambian capital, today for talks with African leaders aimed at ending nearly eight months of civil war, his National Patriotic Front of Liberia said yesterday.

Mr Taylor was to meet President Jawara of The Gambia last Friday to discuss a ceasefire. The meeting was postponed until today after

President Museveni of Uganda, in Banjul. Mr Museveni is acting chairman of the Organisation of African Unity.

Nigeria and Ghana have contributed troops to a 2,500-strong peacekeeping force assembled in neighbouring Sierra Leone ready to enter Liberia if a ceasefire is agreed. Mr Taylor accuses President Babangida of Nigeria and

and ammunition to President Doe of Liberia, who is clinging to power in his fortified mansion in Monrovia.

Thousands of people have died since Mr Taylor, a former associate of President Doe, invaded Liberia from Ivory Coast last December. The conflict has become a bloody tribal feud pitting Mr Doe's Krahn people and the Mandingo Muslim trading community against Gio and Mano tribes backing the rebels.

President Doe and Prince Johnson, the rival rebel leader, have welcomed the peace-keeping plan, organised under the auspices of the Economic Community of West African States.

Mr Taylor's fighters have made no visible progress for about ten days in their offensive on Monrovia's eastern suburbs. The loosely defined front line remains about three and a half miles from the presidential mansion.

Diplomatic sources said America was finishing its evacuation of foreigners from central Monrovia yesterday. Over the past two weeks, American helicopters have pulled nearly 1,500 foreigners out of Monrovia.



Prince Johnson, the Liberian rebel leader, distributing rice to nuns in Monrovia

## Serbs defy ban on referendum

From DESSA TREVISAN IN BELGRADE

SERBS, defying a ban imposed by the Croatian government, went ahead yesterday with a referendum on their autonomy, an issue which has brought Yugoslavia closer to civil war and threatened to involve the federal army.

Voting in the Knin region, where several hundred thousand Serbs represent a majority, began on schedule after heavily armed Serbs set up road blocks to prevent Croatian police from stopping the referendum. Croatian authorities had proclaimed it unconstitutional and threatened to prevent it.

The referendum was intended ostensibly to assert the cultural rights of Serbs, who represent 11 per cent of Croatia's 4.5 million population. However, the original intention was to seek territorial and political autonomy, which the Croatian leader, Franjo Tudjman, warned would have meant the legalisation of "a state within a state".

Serbs have been guaranteed all cultural and ethnic rights by the new, democratically elected non-communist government — which gave rise to

the belief that Serbs in Croatia were preparing for autonomy in case a future Yugoslavia was constituted as a confederation within which Croatia, like other republics, would have full sovereignty.

The Serbian leader, Slobodan Milosevic, whom Croatia has accused of organising a Serbian plot, said Serbia would demand an extension of its present frontier should Yugoslavia opt for a confederation — a warning that would mean claims to Croatian areas where Serbs are a majority. The assertion of such claims would, in effect, be a declaration of war.

Serbia and Croatia, the two largest republics, form the power base on which Yugoslavia's existence depends. But relations between the two deteriorated dramatically after Dr Tudjman's government came to power.

The Croatian authorities say that they are the victims of an armed insurrection, conceived, planned and conducted by Serbia and its leader. They accuse Serbia of deliberately arousing Serbian fears in order to destabilise Croatia, and provoke an intervention by the Yugoslav army.

An army spokesman denied that the military was involved when Serbs were handed guns, rifles and territorial army uniforms. He said that the situation was "very dangerous", and warned that the army would prevent any attempt to provoke bloodshed.

But Dr Tudjman said on Croatian television: "We knew about the scenario to create confusion in Croatia, intended to topple Croatia's legitimate authority." He said the authorities had "realised that it would be foolish to use the army as this would have pushed Yugoslavia to the brink of civil war, and would have meant the end of Croats and Serbs ever living together" in one Yugoslavia.

The fact that Croatia has not prevented voting suggests that a showdown has been averted. Yugoslavia may not yet be heading for a civil war, but the tension in Croatia is an indication of the trouble ahead. A high-ranking Western diplomat said that the leaders of Yugoslavia's squabbling republics will have to decide quickly on future constitutional changes.

ISLAMABAD NOTEBOOK by Christopher Thomas

## Pakistan puts the wraps on Indian TV glamour

For 43 years, Pakistan's greatest obsession has been India. This manifests itself sometimes in bizarre prejudices. The perceived Hindu cultural threat to the Islamic state is worrying people in high places in Islamabad, hence a sudden purge of Indian-made television commercials and the decadently attractive models who appear in them.

State-controlled Pakistan Television (PTV) has banned advertisements that smack of Indian culture, be it the product, the location, the models or the music. No more are screens adorned with invitations from bare-shouldered Indian women to use Fair and Lovely bleach cream, Rose Petal tissues or Olivia talcum powder.

Because of Muslim mores there are few professional female models in Pakistan; besides, they cover themselves from head to toe. Consequently, the makers of TV commercials went to India to find less inhibited glamour. They used to go to Europe, Hong Kong and

condemned when their commercials exposed rather too much of young Indian women to the Pakistani masses. PTV, stung by criticism, instantly banned 15 Indian-made advertisements and imposed a blanket ban on any further offerings from across the divide.

Television in Pakistan does not show Indian films either, because of fear of cultural contamination. The alarm has been sounded since Indian television, known as Doordarshan, started beaming programmes from a transmitter close to the border in Punjab. Millions of Pakistanis tune in Hindi movies and soaps now have huge Pakistani ratings.

Doordarshan's acclaimed and recently concluded television production of *Mahabharata*, the Hindu epic, was as phenomenally popular on the Pakistani side of Punjab as it was throughout India.

The purge of television commercials is quite bizarre, because a new commercial station has just been launched in which that most

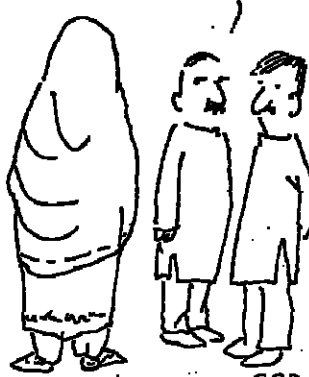
decidedly foreign of television phenomena, Cable News Network (CNN), is being transmitted across Pakistan live from the United States. A censor sits constantly in front of a monitor at the headquarters of Pakistan Television Network (PTN), his finger hovering over a button, which he stabs when something deemed unsuitable appears on the screen. The picture viewers see is instantly broken up. The story goes that the censor fell asleep during the transmission of previews of the latest Hollywood films, and a homosexual love scene and lots of heterosexual kissing were broadcast.

PTN went on the air in Islamabad and Karachi just before Benazir Bhutto's government was toppled. It remains to be seen whether it will be allowed to continue unhindered under the present hardline caretaker administration. It had planned to expand into 18 cities within the next six months, encouraged by Miss Bhutto's "open skies" policy for

broadcasting. (Open skies or not, PTV remained a government mouthpiece throughout her rule, and her administration ordered the second channel not to produce news or current affairs programmes.) PTV would no doubt like to see its rival curtailed, because ratings have taken a severe hammering as people tune to CNN for Gulf news.

Miss Bhutto, ousted two weeks ago, returned to Islamabad yesterday to launch her comeback attempt at a press conference in the garden of an old family friend, a dentist. She was on top form: the opposition has nobody to match her skills as a campaigner and orator, even if her Urdu is not all it might be. She attacked the "opportunists" who overthrew her, and left nobody in doubt that she is a formidable, courageous fighter. The Daughter of the East says she draws her inspiration from her father, hanged by General Zia in 1979, who told her: "Never give up."

I wish they had a blanket ban on our actresses.



the United States, but facilities in Bombay are now as good as anywhere else — and a lot cheaper. Advertising men were roundly



# Debate, and stay united

Ronald Butt

The prime minister last night still had no plans for the recall of Parliament to consider developments in the Gulf or even for a full meeting of the cabinet. British responses are being determined in London by Foreign Office and other ministers directly involved, with references by telephone to Mrs Thatcher on her brief holiday.

Yet the last few days have confirmed the need for Parliament to meet by revealing much more clearly the questions it ought to discuss. These essentially concern the convoluted relationships between Britain and other involved Western nations and also uncertainty about Britain's part in the vital decisions which may determine war or peace.

The concentrated presence of American, British and other forces in the area has as its moral basis the United Nations' condemnation of Iraqi aggression and the decision that international economic sanctions should be used to compel Iraq to abandon its annexation of Kuwait. Yet the forces in the area are not responsible to the United Nations or under its formal command. Each participating nation acts of its own volition. Each interprets its own role as it thinks best.

Though the naval forces in the Gulf and the Red Sea and the eastern Mediterranean are there as a consequence of sanctions, the reinforcement of sanctions by what the Americans call an "interdiction" (that is, a blockade) and the British threat to stop and search shipping are not policies adopted under UN authority. They are rather responses to Kuwait's plea (under Article 51 of the UN charter) for help in making economic sanctions work.

Yet other nations which have sent naval forces to the area to back up sanctions, notably the French, have separated themselves from any blockade tactics that are not authorised by the UN. Whether the French attitude is a characteristic reflection of national self-interest or the product of a clearer understanding of the need not to take actions which would promote pan-Arab sympathy for Saddam Hussein is a question for argument.

A further, and potentially greater, complication arises from the fact that a large part of the Western and other forces in the Gulf are where they are not to reinforce the economic sanctions in aid of Kuwait but in the separate though closely-related cause of the defence of Saudi Arabia. The massed US and small British forces on land in Saudi Arabia are there by invitation to deter an Iraqi attack. Yet here too there is no clearly indicated chain of responsibility between the United States, Britain and the Arab nations which have gone to Saudi Arabia's defence.

The potential for disagreement among the allies has, therefore, to be acknowledged and the possibility cannot be excluded that difficulties might even arise in

domestic British politics because of the lack of a clearly understood and agreed structure of responsibility. So far a remarkable degree of accord has prevailed between all parties in Britain and the interventions of Gerald Kaufman, Labour's foreign affairs spokesman, have been generally constructive and free from party point-scoring. But the question is whether that accord would last if open hostilities erupted between the US and Iraq, and if it seemed that British forces were pulled along in the American wake without open discussion of the issues in Parliament. That danger could be the greater because of the Iraqi threats to use British hostages as a human shield. This is not to suggest that the British public or responsible politicians would yield to that kind of terrorist blackmail. On the contrary, the dangers of capitulating to threats are well understood. But the British public and politicians will wish to understand the full facts and the realistic options.

British policy is where it is because Mrs Thatcher, in America at the start of the crisis, signalled in effect that where the Americans went we would follow. In the immediate emergency that was the right road to deterrence. But it cannot be taken as a blank cheque for support for every American tactic. There is no dissent in Britain about the need for firm resistance to aggression but British political opinion might not remain united if the Americans chose unilaterally to bring the confrontation to a head by military action if it still seemed there was a chance for the economic squeeze on Iraq to work.

Likewise, the British public would not, given due guidance and information, allow its resolve to be sapped by threats to the hostages. What would concern them, however, would be any evidence that this threat had been made more and unnecessarily dangerous by premature action in the formulation of which Britain had played no part — especially if the government had not sought the counsel of Parliament. These difficulties arise from the nature of the Anglo-American special relationship, revived by these events. It is not one between equals but a partnership in which, once military action is involved, the US is bound to lead. In contrast, concerted policy between the states of the European Community (despite Mrs Thatcher's past stress on its importance) has been, perhaps unavoidably, of secondary significance.

If Parliament were meeting now it would almost certainly debate two major issues. What (assuming Iraq does not strike militarily first) should be the balance between economic and military sanctions? Can a proper chain of military responsibility and command be formulated under the UN? If the government values the continued political unity of the nation on the ways and means to resist Iraqi aggression, it will give Parliament the opportunity to advise it.

...and moreover

## MATTHEW PARRIS

"EXIT, pursued by bear..." One imagines Shakespeare's mischievous smile. His instruction challenges the ingenuity of the casting director, the resources of the wardrobe mistress or the imagination of the audience. It became the most famous of all stage directions.

But it is not his only teaser. For four centuries the Bard has driven directors to distraction. His teasing fall into categories. First, there are metaphysical puzzles. "Enter Ariel, invisible". At "Enter the Corpse of Henry VI" we shake our heads. "Enter a Son that hath killed his father, dragging in the body..." Enter on the other side a Father that hath killed his son. How do we know? Any more than with "The dishes are uncovered and seen to be full of warm water".

Then there are the practical challenges to stage managers. "Enter two Officers, to lay cushions" should present no problem; "Enter Pericles, we" can be arranged. But finance directors' eyebrows twitch at "Enter Blackamoors, with music"; a twitch more at "Enter, below, Multitudes, with halberds about their necks"; further yet at "Enter One in sumptuous armour"; and at "Jupiter descends in thunder and lightning, sitting upon an eagle; he throws a thunderbolt. The Ghosts fall on their knees", accountants panic. "Enter Flavius, with many bills in his hand" sums it up.

Sometimes the difficulty is how to arrange things. "Hermione comes down from the pedestal" could prove easier said than done. "The Cardinal places himself under the King's feet on his right side" sounds a gymnastic challenge, as does "The French leap over the walls in their shirts". And even the most creative set-designer must balk at As You Like It: "scene iv: the Forest of Arden... scene v: another part of the Forest... scene vi: another part of the Forest... scene vii: Just how many ways can you reposition five cardboard trees?"

In other cases the difficulty is to know precisely what it is that is to be arranged. "Drums and trumpet chambers discharged"

sounds alarming. "Enter several strange Shapes, bringing in a banquet. They dance about, with gentle actions of salutation" is a choreographer's nightmare; while "The Ghost of Henry VI appears... They vanish" anticipates cinematic special effects by some three centuries. Nor have I the least idea how to interpret "Enter an English Soldier, crying A Talbot! A Talbot! They fly, leaving their clothes behind".

Shakespeare seems to have had little regard for starlets studying texts before the big audition. "She tears her hair" may be simple, as is "Enter the Queen with her hair about her ears" and "Enter Anne Page as she is, with Queen, attended by her brother and Others, dressed like fairies, with waxes apers" is only slightly daunting. But what are our would-be players to make of "Enter Gloucester and Buckingham, in rotten armour, marvellous ill-favoured"? And pity the young hopeful required to interpret "Whereat Pericles makes lamentation, puts on sackcloth; and in a mighty passion departs".

Many are not for the squeamish. Any faint-hearted can take "Northumberland enters, hobbling upon crutches, and muffled"; but "Enter Hortensius, with his head broke" sounds tough; "He lays his breast open", tougher. And what of "Alarums, excursions: enter the Bastard, with Austria's head"; or "Enter the King with a suppliant and the Queen with Suffolk's head"; or "He throws down the Duke of Somerset's head"; or just "Enter One with the heads"; and — more ambitious — "Enter a Messenger with two heads and a hand"? All could run the props department out of heads. And asps. "She applies an asp to her breast". Then, "She applies another asp to her arm"; then, mercifully, "Falls on a bed and dies".

But what is our director to do with "Enter Dimetrius and Chiron, with Lavinia: her hands cut off, and her tongue cut out"? And what of Lavinia, who "Takes the staff in her mouth, and guides it with her stumps, and writes". How. Will? How?

Anthony Farrar-Hockley believes Bush may decide to strike before the odds become too high

# How Saddam's army can be beaten

For all the pressures which Saddam Hussein has imposed on governments throughout the world by his seizure of Kuwait, no one is under greater pressure than he. Most likely he believed he could take and keep Kuwait by force without facing counter-force. He is now having to think again.

Among present options, he could withdraw, but he would find it difficult to fool his people twice. War-weary Iraqis were persuaded to accept the seizure of a few unimportant acres of Iran after seven years of fighting as a glorious victory. They would not be as ready to support a hero-president forced out of Kuwait without an island or an additional barrel of oil as a prize. In such circumstances Saddam knows that his throne would be endangered. Military options thus remain alive.

Among his neighbours, Turkey and Syria are inimical but unlikely to attack him. He hopes that Iranian neutrality in the present crisis may have been bought by the restoration of Iranian territory and prisoners. Saudi Arabia, alarmed

by Iraqi expansionism in its direction, has opted for Western military assistance, despite the risk of schism. Likewise the Gulf emirates and Oman, Jordan alone remains a friend.

The idea of attacking Saudi Arabia with any hope of success has now passed, if indeed it ever existed. More likely, the Saudis would have been picked off at a later stage when the furor over Kuwait had receded. The weight of American and British forces in the area is now too great for such an attack, except as the gesture of a doomed leader. For all his talk of a "holy war" and suggestions of an uprising against any Arab government which denied it, those supporting jihad would be daunted by a reverse of Iraqi arms on Saudi territory.

Saddam has, however, a surer option for uniting the Arab nation: an attack on Israel; and not simply an operation to return to the frontiers of 1947-48 but to eliminate the state entirely. The Israelis have already seen this possibility and made it clear that, if Jordan is to be the entry corridor for Iraqi forces, they will be met there by

the Israeli army and air force. Even if he had the inclination, King Hussein would be unable to deny entry to either Syria and Egypt would soon be obliged to join such a venture. Saudi Arabia could scarcely fail to support it. If collective numbers seemed likely to overwhelm Israel, the United States and almost certainly Britain would feel obliged to sustain its defence. One exceptional benefit of their intervention might be to dissuade Israel from resorting to nuclear weapons. There would be a huge clash of armour and infantry east of the Jordan. Control of the air would, as previously, be decisive. Assuming an Israeli victory, the estrangement of the Arabs — perhaps the entire Muslim world — from the West would be a terrible consequence.

Fortunately, Saddam may consider that he would not survive such a conflict. He retains the option of attempting to sit out the crisis. Progressively starved of resources, he has thousands of American and British subjects as hostages. In these circumstances, however, the United States may be unwilling to sit things out. Given

the build-up of sufficient sea, air and land forces, President Bush may choose to liberate Kuwait, particularly if Iraqi troop movements suggest an attack on Israel. Britain may also feel a moral as well as a material obligation to adopt such a course.

The Americans have first-rate intelligence — surveillance by Awacs aircraft and satellite — and the means to isolate Kuwait from Iraqi air support or ground reinforcements. In such a situation, Iraqi superiority in armour would count for little. Equally, armour would not hold Kuwait City; tanks are fair game for stalling infantry and engineers in built-up areas, particularly where the tanks are those of an unpopular invading army. If Iraqi groups concentrated, they would offer prime targets for aerial attack.

Comparisons are understandably being made between the restoration of South Korean sovereignty and that of Kuwait. These will become increasingly valid if the United Nations uses its political teeth. But in the military field there is an important difference: American troops in 1950

are now regulars, well trained and motivated, as distinct from the conscript divisions sent to Korea in the summer of 1950 from cosy occupation duties in Japan. The United States marines remain a formidable integrated ground and air force. If American generalship matches the quality of its fighting men they will surely liberate Kuwait.

What then? Crossing the border into Iraq would involve some of the risks implicit in crossing the 38th parallel into North Korea, but in this Middle East crisis for the United Nations an extraordinary weighting factor may be available to persuade Saddam to come to terms: the intervention of Soviet forces with those of the United States and Britain.

Forty years after the start of the Korean conflict, the United Nations may be able to show it has at last acquired the means to put out the incipient flames of war.

General Sir Anthony Farrar-Hockley served in Korea and the Middle East and is the Cabinet Office historian for the British part in the Korean war.

# Must the hope of cheaper air travel be pie in the sky?

There is a well-known journalistic superstition that it is unlucky to criticise the advertising, but as I never go anywhere without my rabbit's foot, I propose to take the chance today.

TWA, the well-known American international airline, has recently been running an advertisement — not only in this newspaper but in many others as well — which is designed, naturally, to extol its services and tempt passengers to come aboard. In order to make clear what I am up to, I shall quote the entire text.

Most airlines change their first-class menu twice a year. They have a "Summer Menu" and a "Winter Menu". Not so on TWA transatlantic flights. Because, with rare exception, we change our menu every single month.

So frequent fliers hardly get a chance to tire of Swordfish with Caper Sauce, or Sautéed Breast of Chicken with Blackberry Sauce before there's an even more delicious choice to be made.

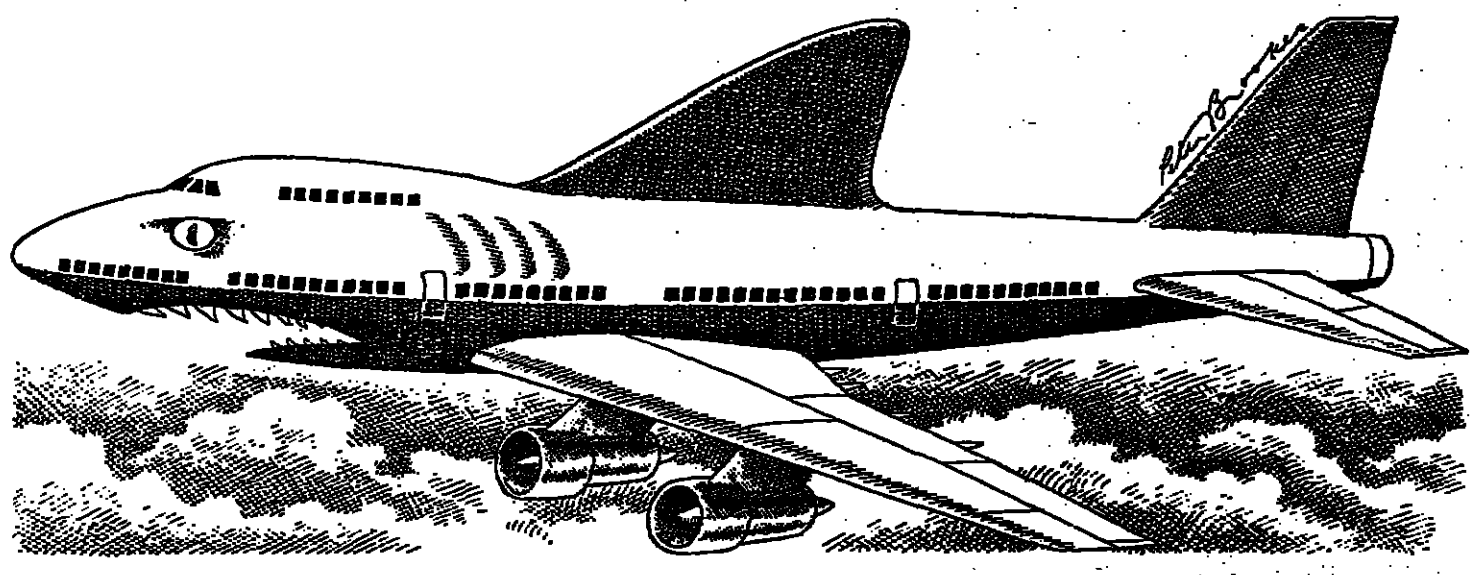
However, what we daren't change is our passengers' favourite hors d'oeuvre: Sevruga Caviar, served from a carved mould of clear ice into which are frozen perfect fresh flowers.

And we wouldn't dream of taking our Chateaubriand and Rack of Lamb (cooked to order in flight) off the menu either. Our regulars just won't allow it.

So if you're fed up with the same old airline food, check out the menu on TWA.

Now beyond saying that Sautéed Breast of Chicken with Blackberry Sauce is about the least tempting gastronomic idea I have ever come across (short of the famous "What is the nastiest sight in the world?" — "A glass of warm gin with a red hair in it"), I have no comment on the menu itself. I did once have my say on the subject of airline food in general, and I seem to remember that it was a rather severe say, in which the word "filth" rang through paragraph after paragraph. British Airways had forty fits in the correspondence columns, though I was careful to point out, as is indeed true, that no airline serves better or worse food than any other, which certainly goes for TWA and its Swordfish with Caper Sauce.

Now those who do not know the



Bernard Levin, waving away the Chateaubriand, puts the price on his ticket before the choice on the menu

Great Scandalous Secret of airlines, but who have not entirely taken leave of their senses, will have become dangerously queasy about half-way through that specimen of glibly-written prose and the noddily-language in which the idiotic theme was couched. But the truth is that TWA knows perfectly well that the very idea of advertising an airline's food is ridiculous and that the reaction of most readers would be to go and get a packet of Milk of Magnesia tablets from the bathroom cupboard. Why, then, did it waste its space and money?

The answer, of course, is that TWA does know the Great Scandalous Secret, and could hardly not know it, because it — TWA — is part of the scandal in question. And the scandal is that the network of carrels on which the entire airline industry is based forbids competition in the only area which really interests the customers: price.

There will now be a gigantic din of caterwauling, spluttering, howling, roaring, denouncing, screaming, bursting and hopping up and down, during which not one single word of the truth will emerge. We shall be told that Richard Branson's transatlantic flights cost less than TWA's, BA's and Pan Am's. So they do. We shall be told

that domestic flights in Britain are cheaper by British Midland than by BA. Right again. We shall be told of a hundred and one minor airlines or eccentric routes which undercut the big boys. Verily. But what we shall not be told is that all the principal airlines flying in "competition" with equal-status alternatives on equal routes to equivalent airports have pledged themselves, until the crack of doom, not to offer any financial inducement that their "rivals" do not. If you want to go to New York from London, or from London to New York, by any of the major airlines regularly flying that route without going via Iceland, the Azores or Alderney, you will pay the same price.

When this state of affairs breaks surface, as it does from time to time, the airlines put forward a range of excuses so ludicrous that I would rather eat two full helpings of Sautéed Breast of Chicken with Blackberry Sauce than be subjected to them again. One such excuse is that people like the stability of airline pricing, and would become uneasy if they had to consider a variety of charges. Another is that there would be a temptation for airlines to cut costs by lowering safety standards. (These are not the most ludicrous excuses in the list.)

What makes the racket even worse is that governments with state airlines not only connive at it, but insist upon it. (Mind you, privatised airlines are mostly quite happy to go on with the poodle-faking, if you suggested to Lord King that he should break the cartel he would die laughing.) For years, the Thatcher government did nothing to abate the scandal, and even when the policy was changed, and Britain began to put pressure on other European countries, the almost unanimous obstruction we met with meant that no real progress was made, or indeed has yet been made. The hero of the battle is Lord Bethell; it was only because he was willing to give his time and money to expose this crookedly that anything ever happened at all. Anyway, the whole business is illegal under EC rules, but the obstructors have honed their art so finely that they can keep the game going for ever, EC rules or no EC rules.

I began with the absurdity of a transatlantic airline trying to whip up trade with its menu because it is forbidden to do so with its prices; the irony is that fares have been deregulated in the United States, and there is real competition among carriers which cannot deregulate themselves when crossing the Atlantic, and

that is not the worst. Transatlantic pricing, though cartel-controlled, is fairly reasonable; but there are short-haul flights within Western Europe which are dearer than a transatlantic crossing, though the length of the journey is a sixth of that across the pond.

How often have you come across anyone, however silly, who is in the habit of abandoning one airline and cleaving to another, the price of a flight being identical and the punctuality and safety record as reassuring, solely in order to taste its Swordfish with Caper Sauce? And note that I am making it actually less absurd than it is. TWA does not try to persuade potential customers that its magnificent food is reason enough to fly with it; rather its irresistible come-on is subtler still: that ("with rare exception") it changes its menu every single month.

Why, shucks. And shucks again, because I forgot the bit about the caviar being served "from a carved mould of clear ice into which are frozen perfect fresh flowers". If that doesn't ruin Pan Am and BA it will only be because they have dreamed up an even more exciting inducement. I hear — mind you, I've said nothing — that Pan Am is about to shatter the calm of restrained competition by introducing real leather seat-belts, and BA, stung into action, is considering going further still by installing tinted windows. Now that's what I call a fight to the death. Or rather, that's what they call a fight to the death.

## All quiet on the Whitehall front

Whatever happened to the much vaunted cabinet war committee, set up amid much ballyhoo immediately after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait to formulate Britain's response? When the cabinet's overseas and defence committee decided to deploy British troops, observers were under the impression there would be a series of crisis gatherings at Number 10.

But since that meeting, the door to the cabinet room has been firmly closed. Even with America and Iraq now on the brink of war, the expected flurry of ministerial activity at Downing Street has failed to materialise.

With Mrs Thatcher still in Cornwall maintaining an uncharacteristically low profile, Sir Geoffrey Howe, deputy prime minister and a former foreign secretary, had a rare chance to reveal in the spotlight. But he missed his moment: he too is on holiday. So why isn't Mrs Thatcher following President Bush's example and cutting short her holiday to preside over meetings of her senior ministers and military top brass? The tart response from Downing Street was simply: "There are no plans for a war cabinet or further cabinet committee meetings."

But Mrs Thatcher knows the precise movements of all the committee's members — Sir Geoffrey Howe, John Major, Tom King, Douglas Hurd, John Wakeham and Cecil Parkinson — and all could return to London within an hour in an emergency.

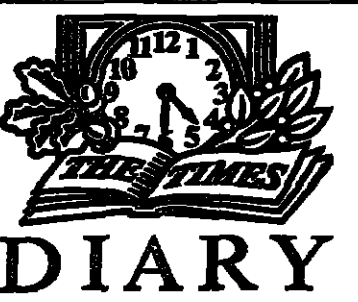
While Mrs Thatcher's low-key response is in sharp contrast to George Bush's new tough-guy role, the cabinet old boys' network has rallied to the government's way of thinking. Lord Carrington, who resigned as foreign secretary after the invasion of the Falklands, said: "If there is a shooting war, the cabinet is sure to organise itself to run the operation as it did in the Falklands. But that is premature at the moment. Anyway, what alternative policy do its critics propose the government should take?"

So Iraq has a Lord Haw Haw telling American troops that Kuwaiti emirs are seducing their girls back home while they sweat in the desert heat. They must have taken the idea from Opera Factory's recent version of Così fan tutti. This had British paras going off to fight in the Falklands while "Arabs" made love to their Sloane Ranger girls. In the opera, of course, the girls succumbed.

## Needle match

Cleopatra's Needle will soon have a north London rival. As part of a £250 million Islington office development, a 12ft obelisk is being erected in honour of Thomas Paine, one of the unsung heroes of Islington who lived there when cows and geese roamed where the chattering classes now pontificate. Its erection will coincide with the 200th anniversary of Paine's *The Rights of Man*.

The obelisk, by local artist Kevin Jordan, will be inscribed with quotes from the book and will take pride of place in Angel Square, on the corner of Islington High Street and City Road. *The Rights of Man* is reported to have



been written in the area," says a spokesman for the developers. "As yet there has been no public recognition of the fact that Paine lived in Islington." To emphasise the fact that the obelisk is being hand-crafted by an individual rather than the work of thousands of slaves in ancient Egypt, it will be distinctly irregular.

## Follow that van

David Mellor, the arts minister, may prefer Pavarotti to Flanagan and Allen, but old-style music hall is hoping to make a government-sponsored comeback. The British Music Hall Society, which has several hundred members, is about to ask him for official funding to spread the joys of "Daddy wouldn't buy me a bow-wow" and similar Edwardian favourites throughout the nation.

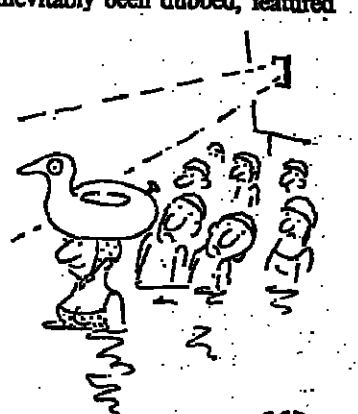
In a leaf out of the book of Tory MP and bingo aficionado Terry Dicks, scourge of the opera world, the society is demanding a share of funds that normally go to more upmarket arts. Roy Hudd and Bill Pertwee, the society's most distinguished members, are backing the campaign, which will culminate in a trip to the Commons. Jack Seaton, chairman of the

society, says: "Why should opera and classical music have all the money? We are a recognised art form. We only want a few hundred thousand pounds, just enough to put on a few shows. I know David Mellor is an opera buff, but we hope to convert him to a traditional form of English, not Italian music."

To win over fellow MPs, Tory Harry Greenway tried to stage a music hall show on the Commons terrace, but permission was refused. "They don't know what they are missing," says Seaton. Perhaps they do.

## New wave

New Zealand, a nation unaccustomed to making a splash on the world cultural scene, is hoping to cause at least a ripple of excitement with a pioneering cinema venture. The venue is a municipal swimming pool in Wellington, the capital, where officials are trying to halt a plunge in attendance by screening films during evening sessions. The first of these dive-ins, as they have inevitably been dubbed, featured



the science fiction movie, *Cocoon*, followed by *Raise the Titanic*.

Glen McGovern, who rejoices in the title of Wellington city council aquatic recreation officer, says cartoons and musicals are being arranged. As yet, however, there are no plans to screen *Jaws*.

## Against the grain

A happy as a schoolboy with a prize conker, the BBC's Peter Snow has been bounding about the *Newsnight* studio illustrating troop and ship movements with a studio model of the Gulf based on the old-fashioned sand table.

Although ITN now relies on computer graphics, which produce arrows on maps to indicate troop movements, it did at one stage summon some low technology in the form of a wire and paper-maché sand table. *News at Ten* producers discovered that ITN had got rid of its one surviving sand table and had to rent one. But it was used only once before they returned to the computer.

Peter Snow meanwhile continues to peep happily over the brow of the paper-maché hill as he plots the progress of the Anglo-American task force.

John Cleese, creator of the classic dead parrot sketch in Monty Python's *Flying Circus*, has agreed to share a platform with Liberal Democrat MP Robert MacLennan at the Now for Something Completely Different rally at the party conference in Blackpool next month. MacLennan, not famed for his rapt wit, was once described as resembling a dead parrot. Until now he has managed to live down that description.





1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

## AN ULTIMATUM TO IRAQ

The detention of foreign civilians in Iraq and Kuwait is a violation of international law. Should harm come to any of them, as a result of Iraq's further threat to deport them to civilian and military installations for use as human shields, President Saddam Hussein will have committed a crime against humanity. In the resolution on Saturday demanding their release, the United Nations Security Council was right to specify that it was acting under the UN charter's chapter seven, which is directed against "threats to the peace, breaches of the peace, and acts of aggression".

Resolution 663 demands that Iraq assist all foreigners to leave Iraq and Kuwait immediately. It holds Baghdad responsible for their welfare and reaffirms that the annexation of Kuwait, where foreigners are now being rounded up, is "null and void". Iraq has refused to comply. The price Saddam has set on the hostages' heads is, quite simply, unconditional acceptance of Iraq's conquest of Kuwait. The security council's unanimity reflected the horror Iraq's action inspires. Unless it complies with resolution 663, the UN must authorise military action.

Saddam may have calculated that the hostages would become the determining factor in Western policy. He is right to the extent that no civilised government can fail to concern itself with the lives of its citizens abroad. However, Saddam's record of contempt for law, human life and his own promises leaves this concern vulnerable to his ruthlessness. There is no reason why he should not continue to hold hostages against some new demand, should the outside world decide to make retreat the better part of valour.

At moments such as this, military amateurism tends to hold a wretched appeal. Only fools — of whom there seem to be plenty — could seriously contemplate a military operation to rescue Western hostages. In Kuwait alone, the difficulties of landing, rounding up, securing and escaping with those threatened with deportation to Iraq, some 9,000 civilians, must be insuperable. The hostages are at risk from any plan of action against Iraq. Their greatest security must be the world's damnation of any harm that should befall them.

The issue is not Saddam. It is Kuwait. The restoration of its independence has been the justification for all action in the United Nations, so far confined to economic sanctions but supported with varying degrees of determination by naval and air deployments. Actual recapture of Kuwaiti territory by military

means would be hugely difficult. Hence the British and American efforts to intensify the economic blockade. This has meant action not as yet approved by the security council, thus requiring the tenuous justification of article 51 (the "self-defence" of Kuwait).

Matters have now reached the pass where President Bush may conclude that delaying military action will cost more lives than swift action. It would be better for such a military operation to take place under the multilateral auspices of a security council resolution. But if the security council cannot swiftly authorise military action to recapture Kuwait under article 42, then under article 51 action there must be.

The form of an ultimatum to Iraq would be simple. Unless Iraq withdraws forthwith from Kuwait, all those prepared to assist in securing the integrity of Kuwait will take such means as are necessary to drive it out. The Americans now appear to believe that they can do this, presumably by neutralising the Iraqi air force, destroying Iraqi mechanised divisions in Kuwait, using airborne troops to cut the Kuwait-Baghdad road and lay siege to Iraqi forces in Kuwait City. New assessments of Iraq's military strength have played down its battlefield effectiveness.

An operation against Iraqi forces in Kuwait is not, in itself, an attack on the sovereignty or integrity of the Iraqi state. The US and its allies could hope to hold Kuwait pending an Arab garrison and wait to see what effect the defeat would have on anti-Saddam forces within Baghdad. Such an operation cannot be certain in its outcome.

But it would be just and, if the US determines to embark on so bold an act of world policing, the rest of the world would do well to support it. While the operation would have to destroy Iraq's air power, this could be justified as essential to Kuwait's defence. The majority for action at the Arab summit could hardly argue that there was another way to restore Kuwait's sovereignty.

This, of course, does not help the hostages. Iraq should need no reminding that hostilities provide no excuse in international law for using hostages as a weapon. Were Saddam to harm foreign civilians, the rest of the world would have every justification for regarding him as beyond the pale not just internationally or in the Arab world but within his own territory. That would be an escalation of a wholly different order and would place Iraq itself in the firing line.

## STRIKING FOR SAFETY

A strike for better safety standards in a dangerous industry is *prima facie* the sort of industrial dispute to command public sympathy. When that industry is North Sea oil extraction, public memory is seared with images of the Piper Alpha disaster of 1988, which cost 167 lives. The government said at the time that it was not satisfied the rigs were safe enough. Expensive alterations were ordered, by the end of this year, to prevent a repetition.

Rarely in industrial relations is anything as simple as it seems. Safety is the main reason given by contract workers on North Sea oil rigs for action which has resulted so far in four one-day stoppages, mass dismissals and a sit-in on a number of oil platforms. The issue is certainly not pay. Earnings in the North Sea are good. Both the strikers' unofficial leadership, the Offshore Industry Liaison Committee, and the employers' body, the Offshore Contractors Council, regard pay as a secondary issue.

Behind safety lies the issue of union recognition, and this is not straightforward. Many in the North Sea work for contractors, and are under short-term contracts themselves. This method of employment is now under attack. There is intense competition for maintenance and construction contracts in the North Sea and for skilled labour to carry them out. The contractors naturally fear that collective bargaining will remove the flexibility they need to underbid their rivals. Employees want the stability of employment that a more regulated method of fixing pay and conditions would provide.

Safety aside, this dispute is a classic conflict of economic interests. Each side sees itself as

acting in pursuit of its own advantage. It is a dispute whose character has been strongly shaped by the present state of industrial relations law. It is unofficial because the unions do not dare to support it without a ballot. They have, perhaps without much conviction but to comply with the law, urged an end to the unofficial action. But the link between union recognition and safety is also a legal one. Under the Health and Safety at Work Act of 1974, a recognised union is given the automatic right to supervise and participate in health and safety measures taken by an employer. An unrecognised union is not.

By and large, these industrial relations-based safety arrangements work well onshore and enjoy the confidence of both sides. They provide the foundation for much of the routine work of the government's Health and Safety Executive. Noting the absence of union recognition as the basis for safety procedures on North Sea oil rigs, the energy department required a safety committee to be elected for each rig after the Piper Alpha disaster two years ago. It thereby adapted this aspect of the 1974 Act to these non-unionised workplaces but on an alternative legal basis, without the HSE.

The degree of support shown for the one-day strikes in the North Sea so far suggest that this ad hoc alternative — imposed on reluctant employers by a concerned government — has not commanded much confidence among the workers themselves. The employers should be asking themselves why. No grievance can be exploited where none exists. In an industry which is not nearly conscious enough of safety, union recognition is the obvious way of forcing employers to take it seriously.

## RETURN OF THE NATIVES

Alexander Solzhenitsyn is among 23 exiled dissidents who were last week given back their Soviet citizenship by presidential decree. Mikhail Gorbachev made sure that the decision and the credit for it were his alone. He also used his prerogative to annul sentences passed against millions of victims of Stalin. In most cases this rehabilitation had perforce to be posthumous. Their suffering was unimaginable. But the exiles of the Brezhnev era are still alive and kicking.

Exile — internal or external, voluntary or compulsory, temporary or permanent — has been the destiny of many great Russians. The Tsars encouraged their critics to live abroad, while shadowing them with spies. They sent thousands more to Siberia. But the communist revolution brought a different order of magnitude and severity to the banishing of opposition.

Under the Bolsheviks, Siberian exile became tantamount to a death sentence. The surviving élite of the old Russian empire went into exile after October 1917. Soon discredited revolutionaries began to follow, often graced by Soviet agents or arrested and dogged by Soviet agents or arrested and dogged by the Nazis. More recent exiles have included much of the cream of the Soviet arts and intelligentsia.

The injustices suffered by Soviet exiles have been overshadowed for much of the past 73 years by the genocidal campaigns against the Kulaks, Ukrainians, Poles, Jews, Tatars, Balts and other large sections of Soviet society. Yet Russians consider exile a peculiarly harsh punishment. Some — soldiers, spies, intellectuals, even Stalin's daughter — found the homesickness and guilt so unbearable that they

returned. Some were never heard of again. Those who have preserved their integrity and their equipoise throughout their banishment are remarkable people.

Those who have made good in the West will, if they decide to return permanently, doubtless be feted as heroes. Writers such as Brodsky, dissidents such as Bukovsky, musicians such as Ashkenazy could all expect to be welcomed and honoured in the new post-communist Russia or the other Soviet republics.

For the less famous, however, the prospect is likely to be less enticing. As some exiles from Eastern Europe have discovered, resentment against those who have lived in the West can be whipped up by the unscrupulous, as Ion Ratiu found in Romania. Even where, as in Czechoslovakia or Hungary, former exiles were able to regain positions of trust, they have been at pains to emphasise their local roots. In the Soviet Union, the opposition parties which are assuming power in the republics have their own indigenous leaders. There are few vacancies for returning émigrés at the head of these burgeoning popular movements.

President Gorbachev's decrees come too late to help most of the victims of communism for whom they are intended. Many Soviet exiles are not included in his list. Few, if any, Russians will believe the excuses made on his behalf — that "opposition within the leadership" prevented an earlier amnesty. His decrees are too late to help him sanitise the system which disowned the bravest and best of its citizens. For most Russians, the return of Solzhenitsyn will be proof, not that communism has acquired a human face at last, but that its day is done.

## Middle East build-up: summoning means to stiffen world sinews

From Mr Tony Benn, MP for Chesterfield (Labour)

Sir, Surely the time has come when the UN Security Council should, as a matter of urgency, convene a Middle East peace conference. There is widespread support for the imposition of sanctions against Iraq, but considerable anxiety at the build-up of military forces outside the authority of the UN.

I suggest that a peace conference, to which all the nations in the area and the Palestine Liberation Organization should be invited, should consider:

1. Immediate withdrawal of all foreign forces to internationally accepted frontiers, in line with all the UN resolutions on the Middle East, and the introduction of UN peacekeeping forces into all disputed areas.

2. Restoration of the independence of Kuwait, the establishment of a Palestinian state, and security for the state of Israel, all within internationally agreed borders, and the negotiation of permanent peace treaties between all the nations in the area, to be underwritten by the UN.

3. Establishment of a UN development fund to promote the diversion of money now spent on weapons to the needs of the people, and agreement to limit and monitor the international arms trade.

4. Negotiation of a UN oil convention to guarantee a fair return to the oil producers; security of supply for the oil consumers; an international energy conservation programme; and control over the international oil companies.

I have written to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to the Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary in these terms.

Yours,

TONY BENN,

House of Commons,

August 17.

From Dr Gerald H. Blake

Sir, It is of some interest that Saddam Hussein now wishes to comply with the Algiers Protocol of March 6, 1975, regarding the Iran-Iraq border along the Shatt al-Arab. The Protocol was agreed "in accordance with the principles of territorial integrity, the inviolability of frontiers, and non-interference in internal affairs".

Yours faithfully,  
GERALD BLAKE (Director),  
International Boundaries  
Research Unit,  
University of Durham,  
South Road, Durham.

From Mr Clifford H. Jordan

Sir, The activities of Saddam Hussein have been rightly condemned in your columns. There has been no equivalent publication of the real condemnation which lies at the door of Britain, the United States, France, USSR and others for supplying the tyrant with sophisticated weapons without which he would be unable to pursue his unbecoming ambitions.

Yours sincerely,  
C. H. JORDAN,  
34 Hillcrest Road,  
Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands.

## Professions and EC

From Mrs Charlotte Horsfield

Sir, Martin Jacques ("Time to open closed ranks", August 8) must surely be making a virtue out of necessity when he advocates more flexibility between the professions. The EC directive that lays down the law on this subject (89/48/EEC) goes beyond what he is recommending, wipes out the self-governing role of the professional bodies and gives to the Commission amazing powers over professional qualifications.

How it is proposed to maintain standards after next January, when the directive is due to be applied, is a mystery. Even standards of rectitude are to be harmonized (article 6(1)) and a good character certificate attested to in one member state will be valid in all the others, as would a certificate of physical and mental health.

The Olympian style of Commission proposals and Council directives could be made the subject of a thesis. The tone of voice they adopt is always authoritarian, e.g.:

"... the professional associations and organisations which confer such titles on their members... cannot invoke their private status to avoid application of the system provided for by this Directive."

Directives are, by the way, directed at democratically elected governments by autocratic bodies over whom the electorate has no control.

Yours faithfully,  
CHARLOTTE HORSFIELD,  
24 Liverpool Road,  
Kingston Hill, Surrey,  
August 8.

## Natural history cuts

From Mr J. V. G. Mallet

Sir, The Honorary Secretary of the Entomological Society and others (August 11) draw attention to the damage complacently envisaged in the Natural History Museum's corporate plan to what is, in effect, the central taxonomic data bank for the world.

Since Mrs Thatcher has recently emphasised the need for just such a data bank to monitor the effects of environmental change, one hopes that her new minister, David Mellor, will appreciate that many branches of behind-the-scenes research under threat at the museum could affect the continued existence of a human audience to admire the front-of-house displays of plastic dinosaurs.

Curators at a great national

From Mr Miles Copeland

Sir, I have it on good authority that Iraq specialists in the American intelligence community see your leader in *The Times* of August 15 as the most perceptive analysis yet to appear in any newspaper.

There can be no thought of "winning" an internal revolt against Saddam Hussein. Rather, the strategy is one of building in and around Iraq an environment in which certain Iraqis, some of them in Saddam's entourage, will do the necessary. There are three stages.

The first is massive propaganda designed to impress upon the Iraqi people what Saddam has led them into. It can hardly be said that the military and economic forces we have lined up in the Gulf are there merely to show Saddam's followers the magnitude of his opposition. It happens, however, that the psychological warfare effect is the one most relevant to our basic objective.

From the beginning, American strategy has been based on an assumption that our adversary is not "the Iraqis", or even the Iraqi army, but Saddam Hussein himself. Once he goes, the Iraqi offensive is finished. Propaganda from outside Iraq can hardly bring about a nationwide popular uprising, but it can introduce tensions that Saddam's vast security system is not likely to miss.

The second is to introduce "spoiling" into Iraq, which by covert actions of various kinds, will raise doubts among Saddam's supporters and cause members of his "apparatus of terror" to suspect that they are not as much on top of anti-Saddam forces as they have thought they are. They will see members of their own families, as well as previously trusted colleagues, popping up over

## Rules of engagement

From Lieutenant-Commander M. J. Kay, RN (ret)

Sir, Your defence correspondent, Michael Evans, writing on rules of engagement in the Gulf (August 15), says that the rules will have been written to ensure that the Armilla Patrol warships can open fire as soon as it is clear that an Iraqi aircraft is planning an attack.

My publisher has kindly allowed me to quote from my forthcoming book on international law and seapower, as follows:

"... the generally accepted limits of international law being unequal to the demands of modern conflict where anticipatory self-defence is concerned, the naval commander is doubly vulnerable (assuming that he survives an actual exchange of weapons):

1. If his ship is hit, his career will be finished and his conscience will be burdened with the lives of his ship's company;

2. If he saves his ship by firing first, his career will still be finished; furthermore, he will be answerable under international law for his actions, although his conscience may possibly escape burden."

I continued by offering advice upon the dilemma, which recalls

## Intelligent intelligence

From Mrs Hermine Wynne

Sir, In your leading article of August 9, "Intelligent intelligence", you write: "The invasion of Hungary and Czechoslovakia, martial law in Poland, the beginning and end of the Berlin Wall: almost certainly, they all surprised the British".

My late husband, Greville Wynne, an agent in M16, brought with him from the USSR the information that the Soviets intended to build a wall through Berlin, and he passed on this information to his superiors. He told me that our news were wrong, of constantly hosing down the cement, if it were built, so that it would never set, but that the opinion of CIA was: Let them build that wall and let it be a monument to communism.

The beginning of the Berlin Wall cannot have been a surprise.

Yours faithfully,  
HERMINE WYNNE,  
40 Bramham Gardens,  
Kensington, SW5.

## Domestic violence

From Mrs Francesca Quint

Sir, It is all very well to say, with Mr Napier (August 8), that victims of domestic violence should not accept violent conduct on the part of their spouses. Of course they should not be expected to put up with it, in the same way that aggressive and destructive behaviour within or between states or communities is not tolerable and should not be tolerated.

The trouble is that the victim is by definition the weaker party,

and may have hostages. To end a bad marriage requires effort and determination, brings no positive benefit and can involve frightening risks. It is easier to treat the contrition and remorse which so often follows a bout of violence as a genuine intention to make things work, and to go along with implied or overt pressure from family and friends to forgive and try again. This can turn into a damaging habit.

Yours faithfully,  
FRANCESCA QUINT,  
11 Old Square,  
Lincoln's Inn, WC2.

## Stationary parking

From Mr A. Dyke

Sir, Mr D. H. Worskett (August 13) says that the new London Underground map should show which stations provide proper and secure car-parking. Some years ago, when our car was stolen from a Tube station car park, the police advised that parking there was inviting theft and recommended parking in nearby streets.

Perhaps LT are ahead of Mr Worskett — it's just that the map shows no secure car parks because none of their car parks are secure.

Yours faithfully,  
ANDREW DYKE,  
40 Compton Road,  
Winchmore Hill, N21,  
August 13.

## Last wishes

From Mr P. J. A. Smith

Sir, Instead of having his body cremated in a bin liner, should not Mr Sam Evans (August 8) leave it to be used for medical education or research? This would not only achieve the economy in wood and fuel which he desires, but also give the final disposition of his remains will be in the hands of cheerful medical students, not professionally lugubrious undertakers.

Yours faithfully,  
P. J. A. SMITH,  
5 Victoria Street,  
New Romney, Kent.

growing suspect lists, and they'll begin to suspect that they are not backing a winner.

The third is to make the most of contacts that Western covert political action units have been building in Iraq since the failed coup attempt in 1973 of the Iraqi security chief, Colonel Nazam Kazzaz. Contrary to popular assumptions, when things begin to go wrong for a leader his praetorians are the first to jump off of the bandwagon. Many of them are already in contact with their counterparts in foreign security services — including the CIA specialists who trained them and they know how to meet and deal with their foreigners without being spotted by their colleagues.

When time comes to jump ship, they will come to us (as some, I understand, already have) so that we, except for exceptional cases, will not have to go to them. When we do meet, we will encourage them to go ahead with their coup (or whatever), but to do so for their reasons, not ours, although we will give them such back-up assistance as they may need.

In short, although I am in no position to speak for my younger friends out at Langley as they plot the demise of Saddam Hussein, I can surmise from my own experience that they will not count on opposition forces in Iraq (except, that is, to create a general atmosphere of uncertainty) but on "the Baghdad elite" (to borrow a phrase from your leader) and from those among them who can be counted on to do the job "as ruthlessly and methodically as Saddam has played with his people's destiny."

Yours faithfully,  
MILES COPELAND,  
3 The Green,  
Aston Rowant, Oxford,  
August 18.

## Canal restoration

From Miss Christine Thain

Sir, The official reopening of the Kennet and Avon canal (report, August 9) is a monument to the tireless dedication of the amateur visionary. We are fortunate that the species is endemic in Great Britain, for how else would worthy, needy and vital causes be so served?

Perhaps the Department of the Environment can match the commitment of the Kennet and Avon restorers and announce a feasibility study of canal restoration and extension throughout England, not only as a leisure asset and alternative transport system, but also, perhaps more radically and certainly more topically, as a water delivery system to replenish the stressed reservoirs of southern counties from the abundance in the north-west.

Yours faithfully,  
CHRISTINE THAIN,  
30 Goodwin Road,  
Slough, Berkshire.

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# Second time A-levels may be tougher

Thousands of school-leavers are now into their fifth day of agonising about their future, after failing to get the A-level grades required for their higher education course.

Most will have had the bad news already; the rest know deep down what the dreaded brown envelope will contain when it arrives. They are left to decide whether to settle for another course, abandon their plans to continue in education or to try again for the right grades.

It may have been an easy choice if the results fell far short of the mark, but because offers take into account school predictions of a candidate's examination performance, the difference is often tantalisingly slight. Although examination boards will re-mark papers, the success rate is low and the cost high: about £25, unless the result is altered.

The temptation for many is to resist, but it can be a costly mistake. Grades often do not improve and, even if they do, admissions tutors may raise an original offer the second time around, although universities are reluctant to admit that they do this for resits. There is, however, no doubt the practice is widespread throughout higher education.

Sheffield University, for example, asks an average of one grade more for resits. Andrew Hindmarsh, who

is responsible for admissions, says: "There is no set rule, but departments are likely to ask for higher grades to allow for the fact that a student has had longer to master the subject and should be able to do better than someone who has had only the basic two years."

Even where there is no such policy, an applicant may find it tougher to win a place after an initial rejection. Keith Clayton, admissions officer at the University of East Anglia, says: "An increased offer may be nothing to do with resitting. Our applications are rising steadily and so are our offers. I would not stop people having another go at A-levels, but as many do worse as do better in resits."

"The sensible thing is to go where your grades allow, unless there is good reason to think you will do better a second time."

Not surprisingly, this advice is echoed by admissions staff in polytechnics and colleges of higher education, many of whose students are disappointed university applicants. Terry Rymer, student advisory officer at Buckinghamshire College of Higher Education, says: "Since colleges do expect higher grades, the advantage of taking a subject again goes out of the window. Students are much better advised to explore the alternatives. Failure to achieve a grade is sometimes the key to all sorts of new opportunities."

For those determined to resist, there is no shortage of openings. Students are usually advised not to go back to the same school to repeat a course because enthusiasm can wane quickly when sitting through the same lessons. Further education colleges offer a wide range of courses and, for those who can afford them, crammers are increasingly popular. Some claim spectacular successes in increasing grades, but the tuition is not cheap. Rates vary between £17 and £26 an hour, so a full year's course can cost thousands of pounds.

The crammers arouse strong emotions and even those who work in them are critical of some practices. Chris Sivewright, director of the Oxford School of Learning, says it is not uncommon for tutors to work for as many as seven different crammers and for students to be advised to take longer courses than they need.

"We offer free tuition to anyone who fails with us until they pass," he says. "But most parents in this sector are in a high income bracket and do not even want to meet the tutors before they pay. They certainly are not as discerning as they would be when buying a new car."

Growing numbers of parents consider crammers worth the expense. The Abbey Tutorial College, for example, has been so successful at its London base that it has opened a second college in Manchester. Joanne Wilcox, the new college's principal, says: "Even where offers are increased, as is likely in



Academic promise: one London college claims to push exam results up by two or three grades and in some cases from Es to As

competitive subjects such as medicine, we expect to improve our students' grades by enough to get them in. Our London college pushes up results by two or three grades on average and some students have gone from Es to As."

The only advice the experts agree on is not to rush into a decision. Local careers offices are organising special advice services and some polytechnics and colleges are operating "help lines". The clearing process starts before the end of the month, and almost half the students who used it last year found a place.

STUDENTS who have not yet found a place in higher education will be able to consult the first of 22 listings offering a comprehensive guide to degree course vacancies throughout the universities, polytechnics and 42 colleges of higher education in The Times on Wednesday. The service will run for a month.

Wednesday's list will cover all subjects in the polytechnics and colleges, and the first university vacancies will appear the following day. The full list of vacancies for both sectors will be published next Monday, after which they will be broken down by groups of subjects in separate listings every weekday. The information will also be available through Campus 2000, the educational computer network, until the end of September.

## A degree of assistance

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## PROVISIONAL A-LEVEL RESULTS: ENGLAND AND WALES JUNE 1990

Grade percentages gained in each subject (1989 results in brackets)  
% of candidates gaining grade

	A	B	C	D	E	N	U	Number
								set
Art/Design	7.3	12.7	20.8	23.7	19.5	11.8	4.4	31,881
Biology	(7.8)	(13.1)	(18.7)	(22.1)	(20.1)	(12.9)	(5.3)	(32,205)
Chemistry	11.6	15.0	15.3	17.2	15.5	12.0	13.3	44,382
Class Studies	(12.1)	(15.3)	(15.4)	(17.0)	(15.3)	(11.3)	(13.6)	(42,138)
Computing	4.7	12.3	16.0	18.6	17.4	13.2	17.8	18,190
Economics	(4.2)	(11.9)	(15.9)	(19.9)	(18.9)	(13.1)	(16.7)	(15,881)
English	16.1	17.4	15.1	15.0	10.7	10.7	12.1	47,268
French	(14.7)	(16.7)	(16.7)	(15.9)	(14.0)	(10.5)	(12.5)	(47,569)
Geography	18.1	21.1	22.4	17.1	10.4	5.8	5.1	4,950
German	(20.0)	(20.9)	(22.4)	(17.9)	(17.9)	(9.4)	(6.6)	(4,811)
History	8.2	12.4	17.4	18.2	15.5	11.5	11.5	7,259
Home Econ	(8.8)	(11.9)	(16.7)	(21.9)	(19.9)	(10.9)	(10.9)	(10,053)
Maths	9.3	13.5	14.1	16.5	16.4	12.8	17.0	43,407
Music	(10.3)	(13.0)	(14.9)	(18.4)	(15.9)	(12.2)	(17.3)	(44,029)
Other Languages	(10.3)	(13.0)	(14.9)	(18.4)	(15.9)	(12.2)	(17.3)	(44,029)
Physics	(10.3)	(13.0)	(14.9)	(18.4)	(15.9)	(12.2)	(17.3)	(44,029)
Religion	(10.3)	(13.0)	(14.9)	(18.4)	(15.9)	(12.2)	(17.3)	(44,029)
Science	(10.3)	(13.0)	(14.9)	(18.4)	(15.9)	(12.2)	(17.3)	(44,029)
Social Sci	(10.3)	(13.0)	(14.9)	(18.4)	(15.9)	(12.2)	(17.3)	(44,029)
Spanish	(10.3)	(13.0)	(14.9)	(18.4)	(15.9)	(12.2)	(17.3)	(44,029)
Technology	(10.3)	(13.0)	(14.9)	(18.4)	(15.9)	(12.2)	(17.3)	(44,029)
Welsh	(10.3)	(13.0)	(14.9)	(18.4)	(15.9)	(12.2)	(17.3)	(44,029)
Other subs	(10.3)	(13.0)	(14.9)	(18.4)	(15.9)	(12.2)	(17.3)	(44,029)
Total	11.8	15.4	16.7	17.2	15.3	10.8	12.5	657,421
	(11.4)	(15.2)	(16.4)	(17.4)	(15.3)	(10.9)	(13.4)	(642,977)

© 1990 results are provisional. 1989 results in brackets are final. Percentages have been rounded to add up to 100.  
These lists cover a range of related subjects. 1 Science includes all science subjects except Biology, Chemistry and Physics. 2 Other Languages includes all languages except French, German, Spanish and Welsh. A-E = pass, N = ungraded, U = unclassified.



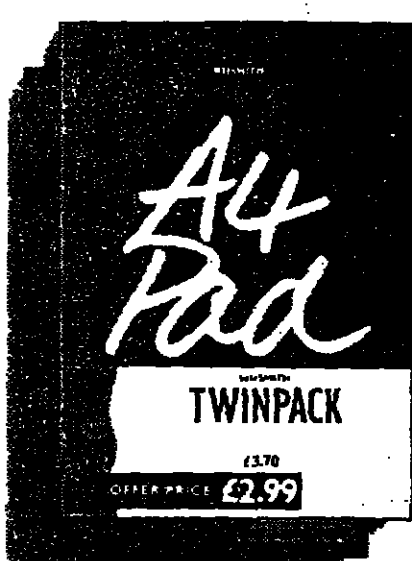
Lino design A4 lever arch file ..... £2.50



A4 jotter pad 200 sheets ..... £1.30



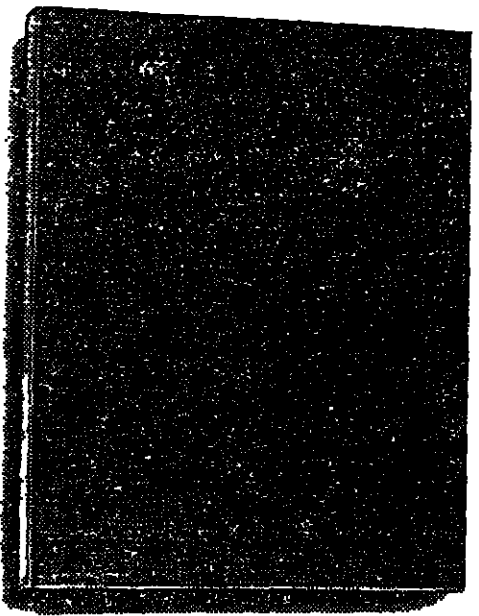
Twinpack A4 recycled pads ..... £1.99



Twinpack A4 pads ..... £2.99



Recycled A4 ringbinder with subject dividers ..... £1.69



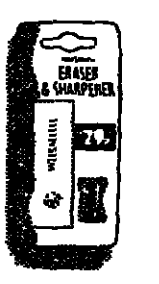
Lino design A4 ringbinder ..... £1.39



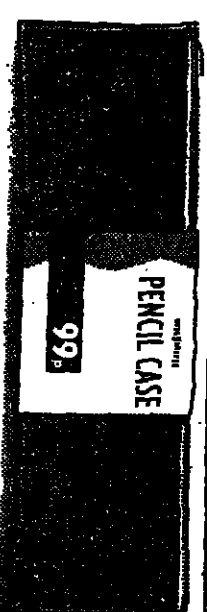
Punch & stapler pack ..... £2.99



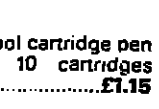
Signature pens duo pack ..... £7.50



Eraser and sharpener set ..... £0.79



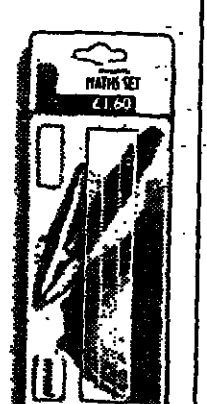
13 inch pencil case ..... £0.99



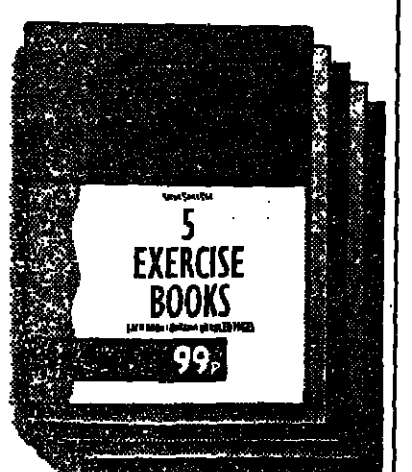
School cartridge pen with 10 cartridges ..... £1.15



Wallet of 12 colouring pencils ..... £0.98



Economy maths set ..... £1.60



5 exercise book pack ..... £0.99

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Children can become anxious before starting in a new class. Ted Wragg offers advice

## Beating classroom jitters

Every September, more than two million children either start school or transfer from one to another. For five-year-olds leaving home to spend much of their day in an infant school, or older children moving up to the senior school, some anxiety is inevitable.

Most of us can recall our own first day because images of it are etched deeply into the memory. I was the only child not to get a bottle of milk. There were 40 children and only 39 bottles of milk, so the new boy had to go without. Since then, whenever a courier announces there are 40 people on the bus, but only 39 theatre tickets, I know exactly whose name will be missing from the list.

In the weeks and months before young children start school, parents are tormented about what they should be doing to prepare them for it. There is a natural desire to make a modest start of education, perhaps do a little simple reading or writing, a few elementary sums, nothing too ambitious, just a switching-on of the ignition and a gentle warming-

up. On the other hand there is the fear of being too pushy or over-ambitious.

A few years ago I interviewed more than a hundred parents to ask what they did to prepare their children for school. Most said they had been told that parents who engaged in such pre-season training could damage their children. When we asked teachers what harm parents might do, we were given but one answer: parents teach capital letters and schools usually start with lower case.

Today, it is much more common for parents to be advised by teachers to think positively, to read to and with children, let them help with shopping so they learn about numbers and our money system, play family games and encourage children to talk and listen to others and to capitalise on their natural curiosity about the world around them. The only harm that could occur would be if parents made learning seem utterly odious.

Most primary schools encourage preliminary visiting by children in order to minimise the formality of the first day. Indeed,

it is common practice to phase two or three children into a new reception class at a time so the teacher can greet every newcomer.

Last September, as part of the Exeter University, we studied a number of primary classes for the first week of the school year. The class I observed consisted mainly of five-year-old beginners. Many seemed relaxed, some looked pale and tense, a few caused mayhem. Their parents were virtual replicas of the children.

The last arrival was a girl who screamed her way down the corridor accompanied by a distraught mother uttering oaths and bribes. The school had brought an extra teacher in for the day to help with difficult cases; the child promptly kicked her on the shin.

Minutes after her mother had departed, she was skilfully steered towards a table full of modelling equipment and she remained absorbed in various activities throughout the day.

When her mother arrived at

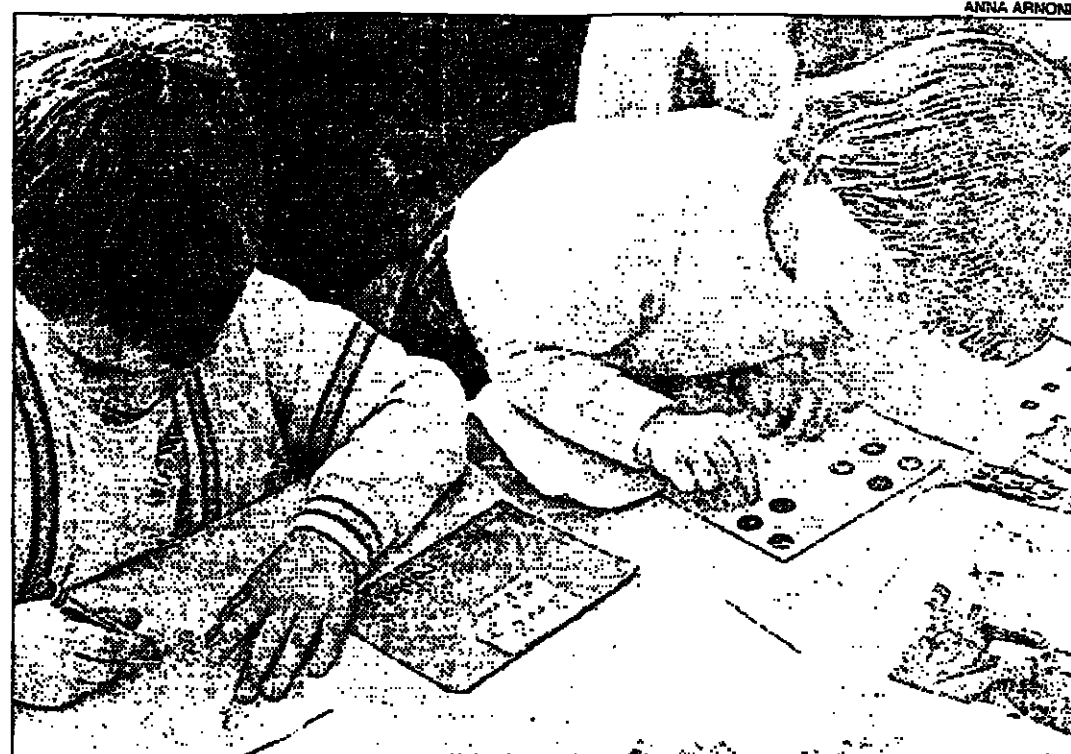
3.30, she promptly burst into tears, giving the impression, no doubt, that she had spent the day on the rack.

By the time that children transfer from primary to secondary school, they are familiar with schooling but not with their new school. In rural areas with small two or three-teacher primary schools, some pupils may move from being one of 50 to 100 pupils to being one of 1,000 or more.

The senior pupil from the primary school has suddenly become the most junior in the secondary school, unfamiliar with the rules, like a Martian landing on a rugby field. Wander off to the library to check some detail in a reference book, as you did in your primary school, and the teacher asks you why you are leaving the room or your seat without permission.

Many schools organise smooth transitions from primary to secondary. It is much more common today for secondary teachers, particularly those responsible for first years, to visit and even teach in feeder primary schools.

Open days for parents to visit



Down to school work for the first time: the prospect may fill some youngsters with fear

visit are also more frequent, and many secondary schools arrange half or full day programmes for primary school pupils. This can offer them experiences they may not have had, such as a science lesson in a proper laboratory.

The biggest fear that many pupils express on transfer to a

senior school is of bullying. Generations of pupils have gleefully passed on gruesome stories of savage initiation rites meted out to newcomers, the most persistent of which is that their heads will be flushed down the lavatory. So far as I know, no headless first-former has ever been seen in any British

secondary school, and in any case where would the head actually go? None the less, as with bogeymen and ghosts, this is not a rational matter, and both teachers and parents need to be sensitive to the fear.

© The author is director of Exeter University's school of education.

## Fun and games while learning

Common sense rather than gimmicks is what parents need to give their children a good basic knowledge

MORE AND more parents see their children's education as a personal challenge. This may not please the educational purists, but most parents want their offspring to do better. An industry of early learning centres, books and kits has grown up to support this trend.

Enid Whittam, of the British Association for Early Childhood Education, says: "A lot of parents are worried about whether they are capable of helping their children master the basics and buy all kinds of gimmicks. It has become far too competitive and commercialised, when what is needed is common sense and interest."

"Reading is one area where parents can start very early. Some of these structured formal schemes, rather than being the best way, can, in fact, put many children off. What is important is that whatever you do should be interesting. They should learn that books are a source of fun and real information. When you don't know something, go

with the child and find out. When it comes to numeracy, teaching a child how to count is easy. After all, we can teach parrots to do the same. What is more important is to teach relevancy and meaning." Ms Whittam says, "When a child lays the table, the numbers of spoons can be made into a game. This way counting becomes applicable to what is in the child's life."

Research into the reading standards of six and seven-year-olds shows that what matters most is not whether parents read to their children, but whether they listen to their offspring's reading and assume something of the teacher role. To underline this finding, control tests have been done with groups of similar children in an inner city primary school. Children being heard

reading by their parents had double the reading standard of the other groups.

Ken Adams is a former schoolteacher who managed to teach his son, John, well enough to enable him to pass his mathematics A-level at the age of nine while he was at primary school. The techniques Mr Adams used have been made available in *Your Child can be a Genius and Happy* (Thorsons, £4.99). One favourite technique used in the under-two stage, which extends both vocabulary and reading readiness, is labelled objects around the house.

It starts with a few objects, door, bed, chair, window. The recognition is reinforced by discussing the label with the child. After a couple of weeks, add more labels. Naturally the labels should be placed at child's eye level. Name tags on the child's possessions, such as Jane's Bag, contribute not only to this process but the child's feelings of her own importance.

Between the ages of two and four there is a period of intense physical and mental exploration. During this time you should aim to develop the child's vocabulary, reading and certain mathematical ideas. There is no reason why some children should not be able to match, sort and put in order a few objects, although many at three will find it difficult to pair such things as socks, cups and forks.

Brick building has long been part of a child's play and it also teaches manipulative skills. As in all areas of creative play there may be times when bridge or tower building is beyond the child. If he finds it difficult, leave it and come back to it in a few weeks' time.

During the ages of three and four, Mr Adams feels that children can start to write. Long before small children attempt to copy letter shapes they need to practise controlling a pencil and the marks they can make with it. Copying or tracing a series of simple snakes, zig-zags, curls and crosses give children the pat-

terns they need to make up letters. Tracing letters and drawing them in a sand tray are good starting points, as well as writing their names.

The 18 months before a child goes to school is the time to develop language more fully. The child can choose books at the local library, extend a knowledge of words through word games and puzzles, and be encouraged to develop an interest in forming a project and carrying it through to the end.

One model parent is Greta Chaffer. Her two sons could read and write before they went to primary school. They have since sailed through secondary school and are both going on to university.

"It's important to give your children a platform," she says. "I was very serious about it and read an awful lot. I was particularly keen on the Montessori method, whereby the child learns through experience and communication, and talking to the boys intelligently was the key."

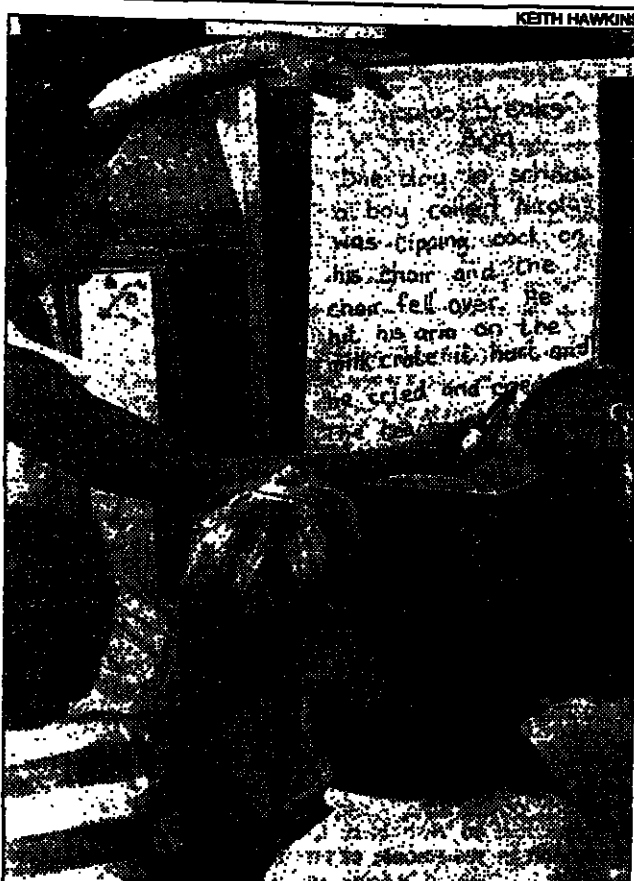
"I made them aware of everything around them, music, media, nature. An important part of the process was, where possible, to use distraction instead of displeasure if things went wrong, looking for a constructive alternative rather than showing disapproval."

One of the most important developments in educational theory in the past ten years has been the realisation that a lot of educational work is being done in the home. Teachers are realising that there should be more connections with what they are doing in the classroom and what parents are doing after school.

Teachers have, at last, realised that parents are keen to do far more and their main reason for not doing so seemed to be a lack of confidence about their own ability and a reticence in approaching schools and teachers to ask for professional advice. As parents become more confident and teachers realise they need all the help they can get, so these barriers are coming down.

HUGH THOMPSON

How should we train our teachers? Page 24



Letters skill: shared writing with infant pupils



Word perfect: a child reading to a nursery assistant

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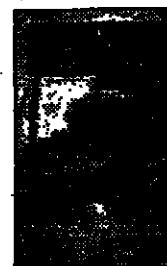
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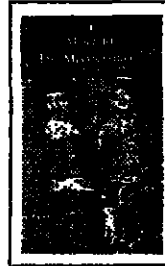
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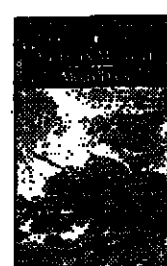
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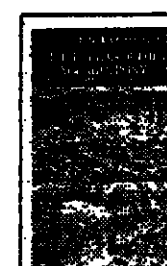


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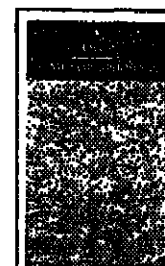
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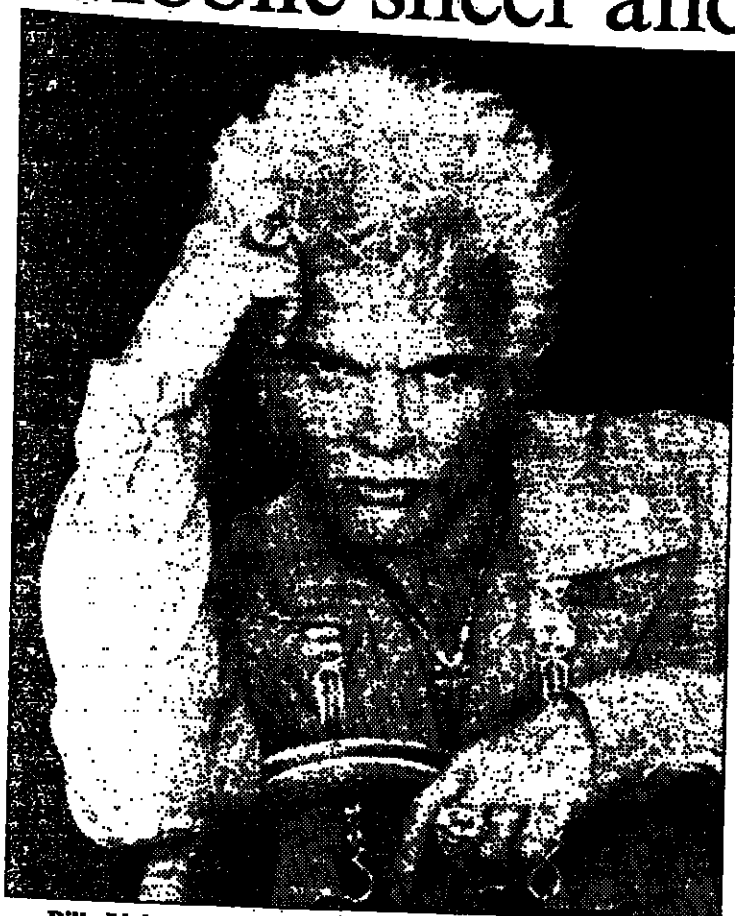






## ROCK

## Mobile sneer and ultimate throb makes the Idol rich



Billy Idol: roots in the earliest, faltering days of British rock

Ask a team of Japanese robot technologists to design a rock and roll robot for the end of the 20th century and the odds are high that their creation would share many common characteristics with Billy Idol.

Bottle blond hair, leather clothes and an impressively mobile sneer; these are all components lifted directly from the rock 'n' roll textbook, but there is also the musical undertone to Billy Idol's career which might have been designed by a researcher. "Cradle of Love", the song that recently reached the No 2 spot in the American singles chart, is a case in point. This typically brooding composition is a fast ballad, loosely comparable with the Doors' track "Light My Fire", yet executed with technological finesse and studded with references to rock 'n' roll history.

On paper, this sounds like yet another academic hybrid, concocted in the theoretical laboratory of a recording studio; perhaps this is the instinctive opinion of the British public, which has reacted with indifference to recent Idol offerings.

Once he is available for conversation about his musical inspirations, it transpires that Idol has an enthusiastic record collector's appreciation of some strange-

Fame in America, indifference at home: the strange fate of Billy Idol told by David Toop

ly compatible byways of rock. Wearing glasses and propping his leg on a table to alleviate persistent pain from a recent motorcycle accident, he is not exactly first-class rebel material, while his infectious excitement about records made 30 years ago gives him the air of a wayward librarian. Born in Stanmore, Middlesex, in 1955, he is as old as rock 'n' roll itself. When Marty Wilde was sneering the morbid lyrics to "Endless Sleep" in 1958, Billy was barely three years old.

Idol's definition of the essence of great music has allowed him to draw ideas from stylistically diverse periods of rock. His first group, Generation X, was too primitive to reveal much of his musical aspirations but once the punk phase was over, Idol went in search of this essence.

"What started to introduce me," he says, "was rock 'n' roll mixed with a controlled techno throb. That's what I liked in early rock 'n' roll — Elvis, Gene Vincent, people like that — they had such controlled rhythm that it would create a throb. Even early rockability was that sort of throb

music. I grew up with that sound. You heard it reflected in the technological side of disco and even things like "Whole Lotta Love".

This vision of the ultimate throb — an unlikely blend of Led Zeppelin, Kraftwerk, Giorgio Moroder, Creedence Clearwater Revival, Suicide, Can, Gary Glitter and Elvis Presley — was assisted by a chance meeting with Keith Forsey. Forsey is an English musician who has worked with the Munich-based Eurodisco producer, Amos Duul III. He became Idol's producer, and with a pyrotechnic guitarist called Steve Stevens they fashioned the unique Billy Idol sound which led to hits such as "White Wedding" and "Rebel Yell".

Despite the inescapable Jim Morrison tinge to his voice, Idol's image has its roots in the earliest, faltering days of British rock. A comparison could be drawn with Heinz, for example, the car worker from Dagenham who found brief fame in 1963 with a bleach rinse and a tune called "Just Like

Eddie". The name Idol, changed from Broad, also recalls a time when working class lads were dragged out of obscurity, renamed Marty Wilde or Billy Fury, and shaped into pop icons.

"That was partly the joke of calling myself Billy Idol," he says. "It was a reflection of how, in the early days of English rock, people were invented by a savagely. Everybody was changing their names as if there was a savagely telling you, 'wear leather, be Billy Idol'. It was really us doing it, making fun of it."

Now he is resident in Los Angeles, although he will return home for a British tour, opening December 13. American success seems to grow as British interest recedes. Along with the impressive showing of the *Charmed Life* album, there is a Hollywood film career developing, including a part in Oliver Stone's biopic of Jim Morrison. Could this be the Dudley Moore syndrome? "It would be if I didn't come back here," he says. "It's always been a bit up and down in England. I think coming here and playing will help. It's been such a long time since we played here that I can imagine people wondering if it's for real, or is it just a video they're watching."

## TELEVISION: PREVIEW

## Reality behind the hostages of war

Four years ago, Jean-Claude Raspiegas read the report of a message from a fellow French journalist who was being held hostage in Lebanon. The reporter, Jean-Paul Kauffman, had already spent 17 months in captivity. His message was that of a broken man, pleading for help from the outside world.

It galvanised Raspiegas, who began writing a series of articles about the ordeal of hostages held in Lebanon. It also led him, eventually, to start work on *The Hostages Speak*, an award-winning, two-part television documentary about the experiences of three former captives. The most moving scenes are those which show the men visiting reconstructions of the places where they were held. BBC 2 viewers who saw last week's opening programme will tonight be able to see how the former hostages have coped with the return to normal life.

"One of the reasons we wanted to make the programme," Raspiegas explains, "is that the word 'hostage' had been used so often that it had lost any sense or meaning. It had become almost banal. We felt it was important to show the experiences that really lay behind the word."

Though Kauffman is one of the trio of interviewees, the programme's scope extended well beyond Lebanon. One of the men, Baron Edouard-Jean Empain, is a French industrialist who was kidnapped in Paris in 1978. The other, Gerhard Vaders, is a Dutch journalist who in 1975 was travelling on a train hijacked by South Moroccan separatists in the Netherlands. According to Raspiegas, the men represent three distinct types of hostage: the Westerner captured in the Middle East; the tycoon held for ransom; and the ordinary individual caught up by chance in a lethal chain of events.

Raspiegas and his director, Patrick Volson, actually filmed interviews with around 20 former hostages. They also spoke to detectives, psychiatrists and mediators. But during the editing stage they decided, wisely perhaps, to concentrate on Kauffman, Vaders and Empain. The three men are remarkably eloquent. What is even more striking is that, after enduring unimaginable hardships, they seem to have emerged stron-

A French director has focused on those held captive in Lebanon. Interview by Clive Davis

ger, both mentally and spiritually. Raspiegas says he found a similar response among the other hostages. "They came through in the same way. The whole experience gave them a stronger sense of self."

In the year since the documentary was first screened on France's TFI network, Raspiegas has continued to follow the fate of the hostages in Lebanon. In Britain he has had links with organisers of the support group, the Friends of John McCarthy, and his general impression is that the British public has been lukewarm in its support for the hostages. When Raspiegas went to a benefit evening for the McCarthy campaign at a West End nightclub, he was disappointed at the turnout. In France, he says, the overall response to hostage-taking is much more passionate.

Critics would argue that the French government's policy of negotiating with those who kidnap Westerners in Lebanon was weak or, at the very best, short-sighted. Raspiegas, however, defends the strategy. "I think it is necessary to talk. In Lebanon I met lots of journalists who would prefer to see the hostages die rather than negotiate. A Foreign Office official said almost the same thing. I have heard the argument that there is a risk of encouraging more hostage-taking. The only answer I can give is that we have obtained the release of our hostages, and no more of our people have been seized."

Whichever course is taken, Raspiegas feels the main priority is never to allow the hostages to slip from the public's mind. "Those people were taken in our name. John McCarthy and the others were not abducted because of who they were individually. They were taken because they were part of our community." ● *The Hostages Speak* Coming Home will be shown on BBC2 tonight at 8.10pm.

## TELEVISION: REVIEW

## Puberty by country

The sixth and last part of *All Our Children* (BBC 1) returned to the communities where the series began, to show seven youngsters arriving at the age of 12 or thereabouts, apparently the time when childhood ends. For the lucky ones (a pair from Yorkshire and Xiao in China) the transition took them to a higher grade of school. Even luckier was the Hungarian boy Zoltan, who from now on will be spending one day in 15 away from his new school working on the railway.

Daniel in Kenya and the Indian girl Bindu might also be called fortunate in that each was beginning work within the village community. All these had something to do and someone to be, and were getting on with it. Only for Fabiana in Rio de Janeiro were the shades of life's true prison-house closing fast.

School is not a high priority for her group, we were told. While her parents hurried off to work, Fabiana looked after her younger brothers and sisters, but others in her age-group were observed hanging around the shanty houses or flying kites. Fabiana expected to marry at 19 — "but not to an alcoholic" — when presumably she will spawn another generation of no-hopers, with nothing to brighten their lives but the annual chance to dance in a carnival with bunches of flowers wobbling on their heads. Carnival is said to bring excitement into otherwise drab lives: it would seem more useful to improve the life.

Up in Skipton, the lives of Cathy and James were seen to

consist of little but play. The programme's final shot showed their school coach swerving along the Dale taking them off to secondary school, but all we ever saw them do was learn ballet, ride buggies, explain the mysteries of hair gel and play football.

"They were drawn against Neathside B," explained Dame Judi Dench, commenting sardoniously, "and the game began well." Oh, we did see the pair being fitted for school uniforms and learning to knot a striped tie with the help of diagrams, but the English way of childhood looked infinitely trivial. Of course, if an interviewer asks a friendly young girl about the currently favoured way to set hair, what can she do but answer?

At least James was luckier than Daniel whose passing-out was marked by ritual circumcision. Even his absent sister returned home for the occasion, so Dame Judi assured us. At one moment it looked as if the cut would be made before our eyes but this was not to be. The camera moved to an exterior shot of a clinic and it was time to go to China.

Necessarily selective, David Brown's programme had no conclusion to draw except that children age according to their cultures. Xiao, studying maths in her free time, could still play Grandmother's Footsteps while Bindu starts a laundry round and learns to sew dresses. The glimpses of foreign lands were pleasant to watch and, in that context, made life in North Yorkshire look weirder than most.

JEREMY KINGSTON

## ARTS FUNDING

## The sound and the fury

Simon Tait reports on the growing unease over the future funding of some of London's most famous arts organisations



Going to GLA? London Symphony Orchestra (above) with the conductor Michael Tilson Thomas and London Contemporary Dance Theatre (below) with Paul Liburd in *Goes Without Saying*



are working on special relationships with regions such as the south west and Yorkshire, so I would not expect this company to be GLA's first interest. It doesn't make sense to go there and we think we've made a strong case for staying with the Arts Council."

GLA, meanwhile, is in the process of becoming GLAB, or the Greater London Arts Board. As such, it will be one of the 10 new, enhanced regional boards taking over from the 12 old associations under Richard Luce's scheme. In 1986, GLA underwent a major change when it took over the Greater London Council's arts funding; there will be no such obvious change this time, says Jonathan Brill, GLA's chairman for the last four years.

"I have every faith in the ability of the people here to give the best possible service," he says. "What we have to do is upgrade the expert advice we get from outside. It's no good expecting people to give their services for nothing any more; we're going to have to pay them."

He envisages a panel of about 24 experts and assessors retained to cover the entire range of London's arts activities. "We're must find the money to do it; I reckon about £100,000 should be enough, perhaps a bit more. If it gets to £250,000 we could be in difficulty." Already, though, Brill and GLA's director, Trevor Vibert, are envisaging that their £9 million purse for this year will be increased by £5 or £6 million. "The

other thing we must do is rationalise the financial system. We have 34 different funds we have to draw on, and that can't be sense," says Brill.

He also admits that GLA has to get rid of the "Loony Left" image which has made it a source of ridicule in some arts circles. "We seem to be sending out the wrong signals. 'Loony Left' is a tabloid phrase, not one I'd ever use, but we are not the Stalinist organisation some people seem to think we are, and though there may be a tail-back to the early days of the association (it was founded in 1966), we are very different now. We are not going to force the wrong decisions on people, and we have to rethink our strategy as we meet and talk to potential clients."

Yet only four months ago, when GLA launched its Arts Plan for London which included a series of one booklet giving funding guidelines, the result appeared to be widespread confusion and derision. "I can't think of anyone in the entire arts community who has worked out how to operate them," says Rambert's Taylor.

One of the booklets is an "application record form" which, among other things, asks about "the sexual orientation of the group served". Another, on a code of practice for people with disabilities, insists on an equal opportunities policy "relating to the employment of people with disabilities at all levels, in every aspects of the arts (e.g. performers, directors, administrators, technicians, designers)".

Dance companies were dumbstruck, but, according to Brill, GLAB will not dictate artistic policy. "We're here to support. That was meant to be a questionnaire about audiences, not an application form, and of course we don't expect dance companies to have one-legged ballerinas. But there's nothing wrong with an equal opportunities policy and we'll stick by that."

The Royal Court's general manager, Graham Cowley, summed it up: "We all believe in equal opportunities, but if someone tried to dictate artistic policy with things like that, frankly we'd tell them to get stuffed."

The crunch will come on September 26 when the Arts Council meets to draw up a list of devolvable clients. Then the fast talking will really start.

## CRITIC'S CHOICE: THEATRE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of current London shows can be found overleaf

## NEW IN LONDON

**THE DAY YOU'LL LOVE ME:** Greg Hicks as a star tango singer paying a call on Gillian Barge and Maria Friedman. European premiere of Latin American play by José Cabrujas. Hampstead Theatre, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (071-722 9224). Underground: Swiss Cottage. Previews from Thurs, 8pm. Opens Aug 28, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Sat, 4pm.

**FLARE PATH:** Robin Nedwell in rare revival of Rattigan's 1942 hit comedy: an RAF bomber crew and their less-than-merry in a Lincolnshire hotel. King's Head Theatre, 115 Upper Street, N1 (071-226 1918). Underground: Highbury & Islington. Previews from tomorrow, 8pm. Opens Aug 29, 7.30pm. Then Tues-Sat, 8pm, mats Sat and Sun, 3pm.

**HAVING A BALL:** Alan Bleasdale's vascotomy comedy, with William Gaunt stealing himself for the op. Preview prices said to be a snip. Comedy Theatre, Panton Street, W1 (071-857 1045). Underground: Piccadilly Circus. Previews Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri and Sat, 8.45pm, mats Fri and Sat, 6pm. Opens Aug 28, 7pm.

**KILLING THE CAT:** Sean Bean plays a son returning to his Northern family in David Spencer's Verity Barthelet. Theatre Upstairs, Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745). Underground: Sloane Square. Previews from Thurs, 8pm. Opens Aug 29, 8pm. Mon-Sat (but not Aug 27), 8pm, mats Sat, 3.30pm. Until Sept 15.

**KING LEAR/A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM:** Kenneth Branagh's productions for Renaissance Theatre, starring himself, Richard Briers, Emma Thompson. The Dream muddled and unimpressive; *Lear* worthy and fine parts. One week only. Dominion Theatre, Tottenham Court Road, W1 (071-580 5522). Underground: Tottenham Court Road. Previews Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri and Sat, 8.45pm, mats Fri and Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. Until Sept 1.

**THE THREE CUCKOLDS:** Triton Productions revive and update the bold, athletic world of *commedia dell'arte*. Lilian Bayliss Theatre, Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, EC1 (071-837 4104). Underground: Angel. Opens tomorrow, 7.45pm. Then Tues-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Sat, 3pm. Until Sept 1.

## OUTSIDE LONDON

**BATH:** *The Dressmaker*. Ronnie Corbett flees from Carmen Silveira in frantic Feydeau farce. Theatre Royal, Sawclose (0225 448844). Mon-Wed, 7.30pm, Thurs-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 2.30pm and Sat, 4.30pm. Until Sept 1.

**GUILDFORD:** *The Circle*. Stewart Granger's return to the English stage, with Rosemary Harris, Ian Carmichael in Somerset Maugham's drama about gamey aristocrats. Yvonne Arnaud Theatre, Millbrook (0483 80191). Mon-Thurs, 7.45pm, Fri and Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 2.30pm and Sat, 5pm. Until Sept 1.

**LEICESTER:** *The Mystery of Irma Vep*. Off-Broadway award-winning spoof Gorkin horror mystery: fog, darkness, werewolves, everything. Haymarket Theatre (Studio), Belgrave Gate (0533 539797). Opens tomorrow, 7.30pm. Mon-Thurs, 7.30pm, Fri and Sat, 8pm. Until October 6.

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## TELEVISION &amp; RADIO

COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY  
TELEVISION CHOICE CHRIS PETT/RADIO CHOICE PETER DAVALLE

**BBC**

6.00 Cee-fax  
6.30 BBC Breakfast News with Nicholas  
Witchell and Jill Dando 8.55 Regional  
news and weather  
9.00 News and weather  
9.05 But First This... Children's  
entertainment beginning with Belle and  
Sebastian. Animated series (1) 9.25  
Hartbeat. Tony Hart and Maggot Wilson  
with more ideas on how to draw  
inventively (1). (Cee-fax)  
10.00 News and weather followed by  
Double Dare (1) 10.30 Playdays (1)  
10.55 Five to Eleven. Pupils from Moor  
Park High School, Preston, read their  
favourite poems  
11.00 News and weather followed by Our  
House. American family drama series.  
Wales: 11.00-12.15 The O Zone.  
Music magazine  
12.00 News and weather followed by The  
Garden Party. Paul Coia, Jayne Living  
and Denis Tuohy analyse fossils  
with a fortune, ballooning and pop  
music while Glynn Christian cooks  
with rice and the Sweet Adelines  
vocals 12.55 Regional news and  
weather  
1.00 One O'Clock News with Philip  
Hayton. Weather 1.30 Neighbours.  
(Cee-fax)  
1.50 The Allotment Show. Henry Noblet  
and Ron Macfarlane visit Harrogate (1)  
2.00 The Six Million Dollar Man.  
Leslie Phillips as Steve Austin, the ex-  
astronaut with man-made limbs and  
wooden acting (1)  
3.10 Adventure. Ring of Fire. Brothers  
Lowe and Lawrence Blair with the  
second of seven films chronicling  
their journeys around the world

Indonesia (1) 3.35 Head of the  
Class. American classroom drama  
4.00 Cartoon 4.10 The New Lassie.  
(Cee-fax) 4.35 Defenders of the Earth.  
Animated science fiction series.  
(Cee-fax)  
4.55 News and weather  
5.05 What's That  
Noise? (1)  
5.35 Neighbours (1). (Cee-fax). Northern  
Ireland: Sportsweek 5.40 Inside Ulster  
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Nicholas  
Witchell and Moira Stuart. Weather  
6.30 Regional News Magazines.  
Northern Ireland: Neighbours  
7.00 Wogan with Ray Bradbury, Michelle  
Collins and Patsy Sprout  
7.30 Masterchef. Anna Reaburn and  
Simon Hopkinson, chef at London's  
Bibendum restaurant, are this  
week's guests helping Lloyd Grossman  
decide which of tonight's three  
competitors from the North of England  
go through to the next round of the  
competition. (Cee-fax)  
8.00 Broad. Another comic slice of  
Walter on the loose (1). (Cee-fax)  
8.30 Wildlife on One: The Water  
Walkers. The fascinating creatures who  
live on the surface of rivers and  
lakes, narrated by the fascinating  
creature who survives by making  
programmes about them - David  
Attenborough (1). (Cee-fax)  
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Michael  
Buerk. Regional news and weather  
9.30 Take Me Home. Final episode of  
Tony Merchant's brilliant but haunting  
tale of illicit love between a middle-  
aged taxi driver and a young wife.  
Tonight, they are found out. Grit  
your teeth... (1). (Cee-fax)  
10.30 Come Dancing 90. Angela Rippon  
and Charles News with the second semi-  
final between Birmingham and  
London South



Philip Michael Thomas, Don Johnson (11.00pm)

11.00 Miami Vice  
● CHOICE: Miami Vice ends tonight,  
probably having outlived its usefulness;  
it is starting to look rather too  
dated. Eighties, but still has lots going  
for it. Even by the end, Vice never  
looked like it was slumping. Last week's  
episode contained more night  
footage (usually avoided because of the  
expense) in 50 minutes than you'd  
find in some whole series. Vice hired  
interesting directors, had quirky  
guest stars played convincingly, and  
was prepared to take story lines  
(there was one particularly dirty one  
about a plot to breed cows small  
enough to graze on the tops of  
skyscrapers). Much of the credit  
must go to producer Michael Mann, a  
director in his own right - his film  
Thelma & Louise is clashing with this.  
His style is evident throughout -  
particularly in the programme's sense of  
graphic design and in the off-beat  
approach. One of the best US series of  
the Eighties  
12.30 News and weather. Northern Ireland: 7  
Bands on the Up. Ends at 12.55am

**ITV LONDON**

6.00 TV-am  
9.25 Me-Man and the Masters of the  
Universe. Animated science fiction  
adventure (1) 9.50 Thames News  
and weather 9.55 Inspector Gadget (1)  
10.25 Vicky the Viking 10.50 News  
headlines  
10.55 Treasure Island on Outer Space.  
New series based on Robert Louis  
Stevenson's classic story about  
pirates. In this adaptation, the treasure  
is buried on remote planets and the  
pirates roam the spaceways. Starring  
Anthony Quinn and Ernest Borgnine  
11.50 Thames News and weather  
11.55 The Adventures of Tintin (1)  
12.05 Playbox. Fun for younger viewers.  
With the voices of Pat Coombs and  
Kath Chepman (1) 12.25 Home  
and Away. Australian drama serial about  
a couple and their five foster children  
12.55 Thames News and weather  
1.00 News at One with John Suchet.  
Weather  
1.20 Santa Barbara. True drama set in  
California 1.50 A Country Practice.  
Drama and intrigue in the lives of the  
staff, patients and nearby residents of  
the Wanders Valley Medical Centre  
2.20 O Henry's Jimmy Valentine. A  
sawyer who has decided to go  
straight is faced with the difficult  
decision of whether to save himself or  
the life of a young girl 3.15 News  
headlines 3.20 Thames News headlines  
3.25 Families. Drama serial set in  
England and Australia

3.55 Bangers and Mash. More fun with  
the friendly chimps (1) 4.00 Thomas the  
Tank Engine and Friends narrated  
by Ringo Starr (1) 4.15 Sh-Ra: The  
Princess of Power  
4.40 Children's Ward. Children's drama  
set in a hospital children's ward  
Matthew ponders Lisa's motives for  
helping him, while Valentine's Day  
leaves Diane in all sorts of confusion.  
Jonathan arrives with suspected  
appendicitis, but the doctors can  
find nothing wrong with him (1) (Oracle)  
5.10 Who's the Boss? American comedy  
series starring Tony Danza as the  
housekeeper to a wealthy career  
woman  
5.40 News with Fiona Armstrong.  
Weather  
5.55 Thames Help. Jackie Spreeley  
presents the first of a series of reports  
on coping with debt. Today -  
mortgage arrears  
6.00 Home and Away (1)  
6.30 Thames News and weather  
7.00 The Cook Report Update. The last  
programme in the series features a look-  
back at previous cases and how  
they have further developed, whether  
justice has been done or not  
7.30 Coronation Street. Manchester  
misery and mirth on the Street. (Oracle)  
8.00 Everybody's Equal. Chris Tarrant  
hosts the game show where every  
member of the 200-strong audience  
has a chance to win £2,000  
8.30 The Magistrate. Episode two of the  
four-part drama starring Franco Nero as  
the magistrate with a mission. Paolo  
finds Robbie mugged up in an institute  
which acts as a front for an  
international money laundering  
operation. Robbie briefly comes out  
of hiding to warn him off. Meanwhile  
Paolo finds his feelings for  
investigative journalist Claire developing  
into a passionate love. Continues  
after the news (Oracle)  
10.00 News at Ten with Alastair Burnet  
and Julia Somerville. Weather 10.30  
Thames News and weather  
10.35 The Magistrate continued  
11.25 Frontiers: Virgin Wives. The last in  
the series of medical and health issues  
examines the largest than realised  
problem of non-consummated marriages  
11.55 The New Avengers: Sleeper.  
Espionage, action and adventure with  
Steed, Gambit and the  
punctuated Purdy. Starring Patrick  
Macnee, Gareth Hunt and Joanna  
Lumley (1)  
12.50am Sportsweek Extra. Tony Francis  
introduces top sporting action, including  
highlights of Nigel Benn's defence of  
his WBO middleweight title in Las Vegas  
and the second round of the  
Offshore Powerboat Grand Prix  
1.50 Film: Butterfly (1981) starring Pia  
Zadora, Stacy Keach and Orson Welles.  
Truly dreadful tale of a guard at a  
reformatory where a girl is tracked down  
by his diabolical daughter, Kady,  
who then, not realising that he is her  
father, tries to seduce him. Directed by  
Matt Cimber  
4.00 60 Minutes. Award-winning  
American news magazine  
5.00 ITN Morning News with Anne  
Leach. Ends at 6.00

**CHANNEL 4**

6.00 Noah's Ark. The wildlife of the  
Torres del Paine region of Chile  
6.20 Business Daily  
6.30 The Channel 4 Daily  
9.25 The Art of Landscape. Scenes of  
natural beauty from the west of  
England  
11.00 As It Happens. Meeting with  
American tourists in Edinburgh as they  
buy their tartans  
12.00 Anything Goes. Pam Rhodes and  
Paul Barnes continue their look around  
the attractions of Britain with visits to  
the site of Wright, the Royal Forest of  
Dean and Wyke Valley (1)  
12.30 Business Daily  
1.00 Sesame Street. Learning fun for  
younger viewers (1)  
2.00 In Charge. Open College series  
examining the role of a supervisor (1).  
(Teletext)  
2.30 Film: The Astonished Heart (1949).  
b/w. Noel Coward, in an adaptation of  
one of his own plays, stars as a  
psychiatrist who falls in love with his  
wife's best friend and learns a lot  
about himself and the nature of love.  
Lesser drawing room drama. In  
Edward, apparently sleeping in  
controversy about the leading part,  
originally to be played by Michael  
Redgrave. Directed by Terence  
Fishar and Antony Damborough  
4.10 Nature Scenes From The North.  
Films of wide open spaces  
4.30 Countdown. Richard Whiteley hosts  
another round of the words and  
numbers game  
5.00 TV 101. Strong American drama  
about a connoisseur media teacher and  
the new techniques he introduces to  
a high school. Starring Sam Robards  
6.00 The Stars. Hosts attempt to  
unlock and explain the secrets of the  
stars (1) (Teletext)  
6.30 Happy Days. American comedy  
series set in the 1950s starring Henry  
Winkler



James Caan turns to safe-cracking (11.00pm)

7.00 Channel 4 News with Nicholas  
Owen and Zerah Bedawi  
7.50 Comment followed by Weather  
8.00 Brookside. Gilly soap set in the  
Merseyside suburb of Toxteth  
8.30 Don't Quote Me. Geoffrey Perkins  
hosts another round of the quiz which  
tests celebrities' knowledge of  
quotes. Taking up his challenge are  
Sandra Toksvig, Charles Kennedy,  
Jon Leslie and Victor Spinetti  
9.00 Power in the Pacific: The Nuclear  
Northwest  
● CHOICE: Like something from a  
bygone age, a mighty US fleet remains  
in the Pacific, despite the  
recent draw in East-West relations and  
the diminishing threat of both the  
Soviets and the Chinese. Power in the  
Pacific: The Nuclear Northwest  
has been described as the powerful pro-  
posal of a mighty nation, which was  
partly a reaction to Pearl Harbor,  
though now Japan is a major  
American ally against the Communist  
bloc. The C-3 Pacific (CINCPAC)  
- invariably a four star admiral -  
commands a geographical area that  
covers half the world's surface. His  
powers, far from declining as was  
expected when Carter became  
president, increased dramatically  
under Reagan, and, in spite of recent  
overturns from the Soviets, the  
Pacific remains the chief front of the  
cold war  
10.00 A Town Like Alice. The final episode  
of the Australian adaptation of Nevil  
Shute's romantic novel. Jean finally  
conquers the outback, after having a  
variety of misadventures, and Noel  
flies to Australia to try to once more win  
her heart (1)  
11.00 Film: Thief (1981)  
● CHOICE: The French film director  
Jean-Pierre Melville made a number of  
gangster films between the Fifties  
and Seventies that reinterpreted the

**BBC**

7.10 Open University: Computing: Data  
about Data. Ends at 7.35  
8.00 Westminster 1980 (1)  
9.30 Film: Blockbuster (1986, b/w).  
Comedy starring Laurel and Hardy,  
directed by John G. Blystone  
10.25 Film: Duel in the Sun (1946, b/w)  
starring Gregory Peck, Jennifer Jones  
and Joseph Cotten. Early Peck  
movie about a rich and ruthless old  
man who battles with the railroad.  
A beautiful half-breed girl, distinctly  
related to his wife, comes to stay at  
the ranch, and gets up to some serious  
and fatal, hanky panky with his son.  
Really a follow-up to *Gone With the  
Wind*, although there never really  
could be one. Directed by King Vidor  
12.30 Videoworld. Two films about unusual  
Eastern sports - camel racing and tent-  
pegging (1) 1.20 Bartha (1)  
1.35 Paint. John Fitzmaurice Mills with  
advice on completing a still life (1)  
2.00 News and weather. Followed by  
Songs of Praise from Lewick (1).  
(Cee-fax)  
2.35 The I Went: The Antin Glands.  
Hector MacDonnell visits places around  
County Antrim traditionally  
associated with his family name (1).  
Wales: 2.35-6.30 Cricket: Glamorgan  
v India  
3.00 News and weather followed by  
Anticrats. A profile of the Marquis  
Frederick, head of one of  
Ireland's oldest noble families (1) 3.50  
News, regional news and weather  
4.00 War Horse. In praise of the English  
Electric Canberra, in 1949 the world's  
first jet powered bomber  
4.30 A Moving Performance. The story  
of the new West Yorkshire Playhouse

and its move from a sports hall at  
Leeds University to what is now the  
biggest theatre complex outside  
London  
6.00 Film: Brazil (1984, b/w) starring  
Virginia Bruce and Tito Guizar. Lady  
novelist goes to Brazil to find  
material, meets man who pays her back  
for her previous remarks about the  
South American male by trying to get  
her to fall in love with him. Quiet and  
unexciting but with some nice tunes.  
Directed by Joseph Santelli  
6.30 DEF II begins with Glime 8 which  
includes a look at a two-weekly Indian  
television pop show 7.00 Suzanne  
Vega - Open Hand. A backstage look  
at American singer/songwriter  
Suzanne Vega during her last UK tour  
7.30 Now the War is Over: Britain Can  
Make It. As the country faced  
bankruptcy, all hands were needed to  
get industry back to work again (1)  
8.10 The Horses Speak: Cornish  
Homes. Second of a two-part French  
documentary, with three French  
hosts talking about their experiences  
of being held captive and how they  
will never be the same again. (Cee-fax)  
9.00 The Best of Saturday Night. Cee-  
faxy comedy and American comedian  
Jay Leno are the guests tonight (1)  
9.50 Ain't No Black in the Union Jack:  
The Colour of Justice.  
● CHOICE: By a conservative  
estimate, tens of thousands of acts of  
racial discrimination occur in job  
recruitment every year; in 1989 only 839  
went to tribunal and of those only 28  
were a tenth successful. The plain  
message of *Ain't No Black in the Union Jack*  
is that the law fails to deter  
those who discriminate and fails to  
provide remedies for those who are  
discriminated against. Patty Lindo, a



Patty Lindo: catalogue of harassment (8.50pm)

secretary who won her case against  
her employer, lists a catalogue of  
appalling harassment. Her  
compensation after legal costs came to  
£166. She found herself ostracised  
by former colleagues and made  
redundant not long after. In spite of  
three Race Relations Acts, racism in  
employment is still rife, and the  
penalties often derisory even when  
successfully challenged, as the  
reconstruction here of three cases  
shows. The second and third cases  
illustrate a more covert type of racism,  
less obviously demonstrated, that  
takes the form of silent hypocrisy.  
(Cee-fax)  
10.30 Newsnight  
11.15 Making their Mark. Charlotte  
Fawley on how movement is captured  
on paper, whether it be ballet  
dancers or soldiers going into battle.  
11.45 Building Signs. Architect Edward  
Cullinan visits the Royal College of  
Physicians in Regent's Park,  
designed by Sir Dennis Landon in 1960 (1)  
11.55 Weather  
12.00 Open University: Introduction to  
Psychology - Autism. Ends at 12.30am

**RADIO 1**

FM Stereo and MW  
5.00am-6.00am Simon Bates 6.30am  
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FROM JAMES BONE IN NEW YORK

**Elizabeth Lederer, harangued by blacks as a 'devilish bitch'**



porter. "It was just 'Hi and bye'. That's what they do to white people."



**FROM GIRARD STEICHEN  
IN BONN**

Germany on Wednesday. "East Germany is on the verge of collapse and there is only one solution — quick accession," said Oskar Lafontaine, the SPD's candidate to challenge Helmut Kohl for the chancellorship in the

all murder cases were cleared up, and 99 per cent of attempted murders. Three-quarters of rapes and sexual offences in 1989 were also solved. In incidents of gross indecency against children the clear-up rate was almost 90 per

reforming criminal justice. Its proposals were aimed at reducing the number of non-violent offenders sent to jail and ensuring that those who did go to prison served a greater part of their sentences in custody by limiting parole.

**By ALAN HAMILTON**

A crash involving a lorry, coach and four cars caused a 15-mile traffic jam on the M4 motorway near Reading yesterday afternoon. One person was reported to be seriously injured and others were

and sexual offenders who become more and more dangerous over time and who experience has shown do pose a real risk to public safety."

Mr Patten will also seek to allay public anxiety about persistent

all murder cases were cleared up, and 99 per cent of attempted murders. Three-quarters of rapes and sexual offences in 1989 were also solved. In incidents of gross indecency against children the clear-up rate was almost 90 per

reforming criminal justice. Its proposals were aimed at reducing the number of non-violent offenders sent to jail and ensuring that those who did go to prison served a greater part of their sentences in custody by limiting parole.

**DOWN**

- 1 Called for housing at one time in vain (9).
- 2 Former journalists, say (7).
- 3 At fifty a woman imbibes tea that's very strong (9).
- 4 Simple shipswoman (4).
- 5 Little beasts may well come

**The solution of  
Saturday's Prize  
Puzzle No 18,376 will  
appear next Saturday.  
The 5 winners will  
receive a Duofold  
fountain pen supplied  
by Parker**

**URDEE**  
a. An Indian language  
b. The Phoenician letter D  
c. Pointed  
d. Ornate

**YEM**  
a. The prime substance  
b. A small island  
c. The Nordic Underworld

**CALIPYGAN**  
a. Pig-breeding  
b. Full of cunning tricks  
c. Having a nice bottom

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24-hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

**London & SE traffic, roadworks**

C-London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M4/M25	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M25 J3	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

**National traffic and roadworks**

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Meridica	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
London-Paris Int'l	745

**A14 Roadwatch** is charged at 5p for 6 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

much of the day with outbreaks of rain. Northern Ireland, Scotland and England will have sunny periods and showers. In the north and west the showers will be frequent, heavy and prolonged, perhaps with thunder. The south and east will be mainly dry although there might be the occasional shower. Outlook: mainly dry in the South; wet in the North.

WEDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun;  
 cl=cloud; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

Sun	Rain	Max
hrs	in	C F

[illegible]

<p><b>LONDON</b></p> <p>yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 8 pm, 21C 70F; min 8 pm to 8 am, 15C (59F) H-miles: 8</p>	<p>Kent,Surrey,Sussex..... 702° Dorset,Hants &amp; IOW ..... 703° Devon &amp; Cornwall..... 704°</p>
--	--

67 per cent. Rain: 24hr to 5 pm, 0.32 in.  
 Wind: 24 hr to 5 pm, 0.1 in. Bar, mean sea level,  
 pm, 1.0110 in. Hg., steady.  
 Saturday: Temp: max 8 am to 5 pm, 19C (66F);  
 min 6 pm to 8 am, 13C (55F). Humidity: 0  
 am to 5 pm, 60 to 70 per cent. Rain: 24 hr to 5 pm, 0.27 in. Sun:  
 6 am to 5 pm, 0.1 in. Hg. Bar, mean sea level, 6  
 pm, 1.019, 0 in. Hg., steady.  
 1,000 millibars = 29.53 in. Hg.

January: highest day temp: Torquay, Devon, 3C (73F); lowest day max: Larwick, Shetland, 2C (54F); highest rainfall: Birmingham, 29 in; highest sunshine: Cleethorpes, Lincs, 11.4 hr.	Gwynedd & Chwyd ..... 716 N W England ..... 716* W & S Yorks & Dales ..... 717* N E England ..... 718* Cumbria & Lake District ..... 719 S W Scotland ..... 720
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<p>Yesterday: Temp: max 6 am to 8 pm, 20C (68F), min 8 pm to 6 am, 13C (55F). Rain: 24hr 6 pm, 0.45 m. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 1.5 hr.</p>	<p>E Central Scotland..... 728          Grampian &amp; E Highlands..... 724          N W Scotland..... 725          Caithness, Orkney &amp; Shetland..... 726          W Ireland..... 727</p>
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\*Includes pollen count.

**LIGHTING-UP TIME**

London 8.14 pm to 5.56 am  
 Bristol 8.29 pm to 5.02 am  
 Manchester 8.39 pm to 5.35 am  
 Birmingham 8.27 pm to 5.50 am  
 Newcastle 8.52 pm to 6.20 am

**YESTERDAY**

Temperature at midday yesterday: C, about 1; F, 1; rainy, s., sun.

	C	F		C	F
Belfast	16	61C	Glasgow	17	63C
Birmingham	20	68C	Inverness	14	57C
Blackpool	18	64C	Jarvis	17	64C
Bristol	19	66C	London	18	64C
Cardiff	18	65C	Manchester	20	68C
Edinburgh	14	57C	Newcastle	14	57C
Glasgow	17	63C	Widnesbury	17	63C

Devonport	6.38	5.2	6.53	5.5	Newquay	5.44	6.8	6.01	7.1
Cover	11.51	6.5	—	—	Oban	6.50	3.7	6.55	4.0
Falmouth	6.08	5.0	6.23	5.3	Penzance	5.34	5.3	5.48	5.8

Greater London..... 701\*  
Kent, Surrey, Sussex..... 702\*  
Dorset, Hants & IOW..... 703\*  
Dorset & Cornwall..... 704

NOON TODAY

Information supplied by Meteorological Office







## Trade in Sheraton shares resumes

By MATTHEW BOND

SHARES in the property developer Sheraton Securities resume trading today, four months after they were suspended at the request of the company "pending clarification of the company's financial position".

That position is now clear. In the year to March the company made pre-tax losses of £44.6 million, compared to a £20.3 million profit in 1989. Such profits as there were had been wiped out by a £47.2 exceptional item that reflected the reduced value of the company's property developments. In all, provisions against possible losses on properties totalled £61.1 million.

The company's debts, both on and off balance sheet, totalled £356 million. But today, with the help of a £50 million reconstruction, shared equally between the company's bankers, which are advancing £25 million of new finance, and its shareholders, who have subscribed for £25 million of new equity through a rights issue, Sheraton is back in business.

Although the London stock market is in nervous mood, Sheraton's shares were expected to open at a small premium on their 10p issue price, but at an inevitably hefty discount to the 36p suspension price.

Peter Taylor, managing director, appreciates the breathing space the 33 banks have given the company. But he is determined that the Sheraton management team will not now simply supervise an orderly disposal of the company's £350 million of assets. "I don't think we can just sit back and say we have bought ourselves a year's grace," he said.

Mr Taylor has been looking at how companies such as Town & City and British Land survived the 1973-74 property crisis. "They did not just look to make orderly disposals, they added things on to the business to improve cash flow."

As a result the Sheraton management will be looking at ways in which its own cash flow can be improved.

An alternative scenario, of which Sheraton and its adviser SG Warburg are all too aware, is that a third party with a strong cash flow business could find Sheraton's down-valued portfolio too good an opportunity to miss.

## Leisure picks up on less work, more play

By DEREK HARRIS, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

IF the greenhouse effect proves to be established, hot summers and milder, stormy winters will boost outdoor leisure activities, from walking, the most popular open-air sport, to gardening, with nearly 85 per cent of adults having one to tend.

But it leaves a question mark over the European skiing industry, already hit by three poor seasons, as destinations further afield, such as America and Canada, gain in popularity.

Overall, the leisure industry is expected to increase its share of consumer spending. But slower growth towards the mid-1990s is expected by a new survey of the United Kingdom leisure markets from Staniland Hall Associates, the business forecaster.

Total leisure expenditure is expected, over the period 1988 to 1992, to increase by 10.9

per cent against a total consumer spending rise of 9.3 per cent. From 1992 to 1995, an 8.7 per cent growth in leisure spending is expected, against a 6.5 per cent rise for consumer spending overall.

Francis Kinsman, the survey's author, believes that, with the erosion of the puritan work ethic, more people will turn to leisure for self-fulfilment. He points to above-average growth for mental and cultural activities, including a revival of cinema-going. The same will apply to foreign holidays, unless exchange-rate problems upset patterns.

Above-average growth is also forecast for spending on the home and garden, especially on video-cassette recorders, video tapes, compact discs, audio equipment and computers.

Relatively slow growth is expected for alcoholic drinks,

sports watching and travel and tourism within the United Kingdom.

The key factor in expected changes is that working weeks will become shorter, annual holidays longer and retirement earlier, possibly including a tapering process for those aged over 55 to work reduced numbers of hours.

Mature leisure sectors like do-it-yourself, gardening and recording books are likely to have stable rates of return on investment although lower than in newer, faster-growing sectors. Those likely to attract the biggest increases include outdoor sports, home and garden, indoors sports and voluntary activities.

**UK Leisure Markets: 1990 survey and prospects to 1995** by Francis Kinsman, Staniland Hall Associates, PO Box 643, Alderbury House, Upton Park, Slough SL1 2UJ; £125.



Best foot forward: walking is becoming even more popular thanks to better weather

## Chiltern tunes in to radio satellite

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK

MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

CHILTERN Radio, the home counties commercial radio network that recently split its frequencies, has become the first in Britain to install a satellite radio service that will enable other independent stations across the country to subscribe to its SuperGold AM station.

Local stations will be able to tap into the 24-hour SuperGold programme, injecting their own local news, traffic and weather reports and entertainment programming to maintain local identity.

SuperGold, run by a computer at Chiltern, will cost subscribers "considerably less" than the average £150,000 needed to operate an AM service. Colin Mason, Chiltern's managing director, says: "A radio station can now be run by just one broadcaster."

He expects to sign up two or three stations next year, with five new customers each year to follow. Chiltern, quoted on the Unlisted Securities Market, has already completed a deal with one local station, whose identity it cannot yet reveal.

"We've got a significant head start on our competitors. It would take another six months before anyone else could do it," said Mr Mason.

The network is spending just under £100,000 a year to rent space on the Intelsat satellite, and has invested more than £80,000 on the computer equipment. Mr Mason added: "We will make substantially more than we've invested."

The shadow radio authority expects as many as 300 independent radio stations in the UK by the next decade. It is awarding about 30 licences a year.

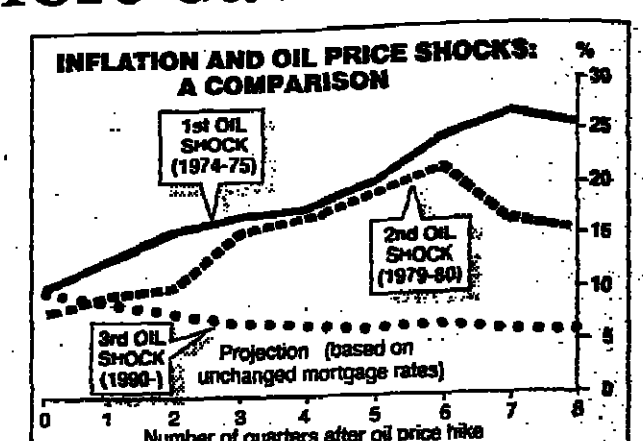
## GILT-EDGED Markets could face a long night before dawn breaks

There is an ancient Japanese proverb that says "There is no night without morning", though for global fixed-income markets, recent developments suggest it might be a long time until daylight.

Prior to the third oil price shock, it was becoming commonplace to hear from some pundits of the so-called Golden Triangle scenario. Briefly, sub-5 per cent inflation next year would allow base rates to drop to 12 per cent by the second quarter, thus ensuring Conservative victory in a June or October general election. Being an innate bear of sterling financial markets has always made me feel more inclined towards the Bermuda Triangle scenario. Here the economy falls into a stagflationary black hole as a result of the economic policy pilots wandering off the path.

There could be plenty of bad news to give substance to this more pessimistic scenario. Wage inflation has hit double-digits with an 11-12 per cent rate likely before the end of the year. Retail price inflation is not far behind and the wage-price spiral can be expected to twist more rapidly despite rising unemployment. In addition, the Treasury will have a difficult job holding the line on public expenditure. Although inflation may peak in the current quarter, my estimates put inflation not far off 9.5 per cent in the fourth quarter.

Inflation rather than recession is the problem facing the Chancellor. Although the rise in the oil price increases the risk of recession in my view, recent data suggest that the economy is capable of avoiding the drops in output reg-



istered in the two previous oil price hikes. For example, real GDP is currently rising by 2 per cent a year while retail spending is about 1.5 per cent higher than a year ago. This means that Mr Major can afford to take the risk of prolonging a high level of interest rates in a (hopeful) attempt to keep the lid on inflation and pay settlements.

His contrast, sharply with the situation in America, where there is a greater risk of recession and a more urgent need to ease back on short rates, given the fragility of the banking system. The tightening in UK monetary policy arising from the strength in sterling will be welcome though the impact on the short-term inflation outlook is probably quite small. Nevertheless, sterling is probably within 5-10 per cent of its cyclical peak so the Chancellor will have to look elsewhere for succour and anti-inflation discipline.

This is where ERM entry can prove so useful. The Chancellor has hinted at a relaxation of the Madrid conditions and it looks as though sterling could join quite soon with a Spanish-style 6 per

cent band. However, the UK may find little scope for a cut in interest rates. Optimists looking for a pre-election fix are likely to be disappointed.

It is not all doom and gloom, though. The experience for UK inflation in the current oil turbulence is likely to be different compared to previous oil price shocks.

The inflation projection in the chart assumes an oil price averaging \$25 next year, no mortgage rate cut, and underlying quarterly rates of increase in the RPI over the forecast period that are close to the average of the previous two years. Although there is no inflation relief this year, there is better news next year and 6 per cent inflation can be sustained into 1992.

In the short term, long gilt yields may edge a little beyond 12 per cent in company with movements in other major fixed-income markets, but for those with a longer-term perspective, and a belief in the predictive accuracy of Japanese proverbs, long gilts look a buy at these levels.

NEIL MACKINNON  
Chief Economist  
Yamaichi International

## Doubts still surround electricity company credit terms

THE debt structures of the various soon-to-be-privatised electricity companies are slowly taking shape. The identities of the arranging banks of all 12 distributors as well as the terms and conditions of the £750 million facility for the National Grid are now known. Nevertheless, the vast bulk of what needs to be agreed before November remains negotiable.

The problem is that all the parties involved - the government, the banks and the

companies themselves - are shooting at a range of rapidly moving targets. Each detail settled by one group changes the parameters of the discussions of another.

For example, the expectation that PowerGen is to be sold to a trade or management buyer rather than to the public has a significant impact on the decisions facing the government and the distributors.

A trade sale would bring the funds into government coffers in a single, up-front payment

whereas flotation proceeds would come in a number of instalments.

This has important implications for the government's PSBR calculations, which in turn influence the government's preferences for the repayment structure for the debt it is injecting into the distributors.

Complications of this kind have left the distributors in

the position of being able to begin, or even complete, informal underwriting of their facilities without being able to announce formally the terms and the banks involved.

The terms of one facility, the £750 million seven-year revolver for National Grid, are known. The credit has a 15-basis-point (bp) margin, a 6.25bp commitment fee and a 2.5bp point utilisation fee for

drawdowns over 50 per cent. The ten-strong underwriting line-up includes four Japanese banks, two American banks, three from mainland Europe and the arranger, National Westminster.

The pricing is lower than that for any of the distributors, as the Grid, with its monopoly buyer status, always argued it should be.

For all the ritual moaning about the pricing, the National Grid and distributor facilities will almost certainly

be successfully syndicated. Even the Grid facility is considerably smaller than the largest of the water credits syndicated last year. And once the underwriters have taken up their commitments, individual distributors will be offering as little as £125 million to the market. Given the interest, particularly from overseas, and the corporate loan drought of recent months, that should be a snip.

JONATHAN PRYNN

## Ladbroke US move pays off

LADBROKE Group is doing so well with its first off-track betting "theatre" in America, near Pittsburgh, that it is accelerating plans for further openings.

Ladbroke has exclusive rights to open a total of six betting theatres, with televised racing beamed by satellite from a number of tracks, in western Pennsylvania.

"Being turnover at the first theatre is exceeding \$600,000 a week, well ahead of the group's best expectations," said Peter George, chairman of Ladbroke Racing.

### SMALLER COMPANIES

## Wentworth shows the way with cash package to acquire Belgian firm

WARBURG Securities and Cazenove, those blue-blooded brokers, had tributes heaped upon them last week for the record-breaking £680 million bought deal involving ICI's 24.9 per cent stake in Enterprise Oil.

But for the UK's beleaguered band of smaller quoted companies, the deal of the week was the £10.4 million acquisition by Wentworth International, the packaging group, of Belgium's Paraphane, which was also announced on Wednesday. Tiny by comparison, it has given hope to hundreds of stock-market minnows who have increasingly found that the City slams the door on their faces when they go searching for cash. "Wentworth has shown that it can still be done," says one smaller-companies analyst. "Directors of smaller companies are so disillusioned with the City at the moment, but this may provide some hope."

Wentworth is reversing into Paraphane, which designs, manufactures and markets packaging products used mainly by the food industry. The acquisition is being funded by a straight seven-for-one rights issue of new shares at 16p, a discount of 2p on existing shares which are suspended while the deal goes through, raising almost £14 million, against the company's stock-market value of just £2.26 million.

It is the kind of package that was commonplace ahead of the crash of October 1987 but which these days is extremely rare. What is more, the cash call is made on the back of a fall in earnings per share for the year to the end of March and a reduction in the final dividend from 1.9p to 1p.

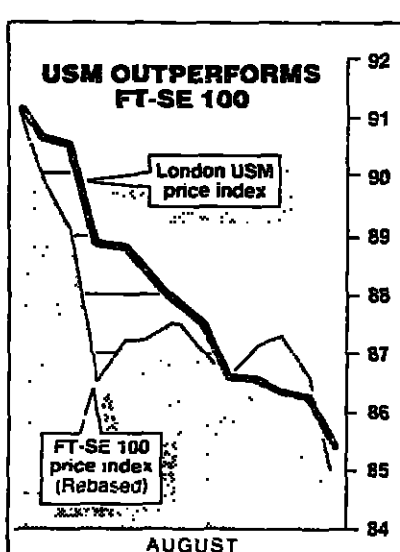
Why did Wentworth succeed where so many others have failed? The deal was put together by Arbutnot Corporate Finance, a relatively new house which has refocused on smaller companies to take advantage of the gap left by the demise of a number of specialist brokers.

Arbutnot had a baptism of fire in November 1989 when it saw through the merger of Medivac, a company which had never made a profit, and the privately owned Evans Healthcare to form Medeva. That deal was worth £87 million, against Medivac's market capitalisation of just £24 million.

Mark O'Hanlon, a director of Arbutnot, said: "If a deal stacks up commercially, we will put our name behind it. We'll grab it and run with the ball."

But the lack of enthusiasm elsewhere in the City put Wentworth's resolve to the test. It took Arbutnot almost five months to put the deal together, compared with a typical six weeks during a bull market.

After being shown the door by a series of stockbrokers reluctant to back Wentworth, Arbutnot turned to Banque



Indosuez for support. Mr O'Hanlon says: "They were attracted by the European connection and the deal tickled them." He accuses domestic brokers of being "short term and irrational" and believes that European houses are set to play a leading role in helping smaller companies to develop.

Roger Leach would give a great deal for a European connection which would catch the imagination of the City. He is chairman of Chelsea Artisans, a Third Market manufacturer of mirror and glass products, and has staged presentations for more than 100 institutions in London but failed to find the financial backing to market a coloured glass cladding product called Chromatics.

A joint patent is held with ICI and now Pilkington has lent its considerable support for the commercial development of the product into a worldwide market estimated to be worth £430 million a year.

Mr Leach fears that demand for the product will be too substantial for his company to handle without being put under serious financial stress in its present form. Development costs have already exceeded £1.7 million. Meanwhile, Chelsea's shares have fallen from a peak of 210p to 48p, against a placing price of 110p.

"We spent the first six months this year doing the rounds in the City," he said. "Our research amounts to two volumes of an encyclopaedia yet we were being asked to put over the concept in just two minutes. The product was not getting the attention span it required."

"We have fought and struggled to give credibility to the product but it is like being in an underground tunnel with only the occasional bulb to guide you."

MARTIN BARROW

### CAPITAL MARKETS

Company	Price	Change	Open	High	Low	Close	%
1783.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
2.51.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
1.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
1.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
1.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
1.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
1.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
1.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
1.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
1.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0

Company	Price	Change	Open	High	Low	Close	%
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0

Company	Price	Change	Open	High	Low	Close	%
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0

### UNLISTED SECURITIES

Company	Price	Change	Open	High	Low	Close	%
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0

Company	Price	Change	Open	High	Low	Close	%
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0

### INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Company	Price	Change	Open	High	Low	Close	%
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0

### THIRD MARKET

Company	Price	Change	Open	High	Low	Close	%
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0
15.00.000 ASB Barnett	21	+	21	21	21	21	0.0







## STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

## Capitalisation and change on week

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)  
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin Monday. Dealings end September 7. Contango day September 10. Settlement day September 17.  
Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are Friday's middle prices. Change, dividend, yield and P/E ratios are calculated on middle prices. (as) denotes Alpha Stocks.

## Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches, you have won outright or a share of the daily claim money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	NIMM Comp	Electronics	
2	South Inds	Industrials A-D	
3	Town Centre	Property	
4	Tax Homes	Building/Roads	
5	Evans of Leeds	Property	
6	Ward Hides	Building/Roads	
7	Harro O & G	Oil/Gas	
8	Cartage	Transport	
9	Transpion Dr	Transport	
10	Widening Office	Property	
11	Ultramar (as)	Oil/Gas	
12	Wilkes (James)	Industrials S-Z	
13	Bar (AG)	Food	
14	Beke Bros	Food	
15	Clark (Matthew)	Breweries	
16	Sheffield Ind	Building/Roads	
17	Ormers Abroad	Leisure	
18	Culter	Food	
19	Hepworth	Industrials E-K	
20	Body Shop	Building/Roads	
21	Aus Oil & Gas	Oil/Gas	
22	Alcon-EZ	Industrials E-K	
23	Harland Simon	Electronics	
24	Power Chuburn	Industrials L-R	
25	Oil Search	Oil/Gas	
26	Power Screen	Industrials L-R	
27	Brainwave	Industrials A-D	
28	Tand Mill	Industrials S-Z	
29	Woodward	Food	
30	AB Food (as)	Food	
31	OPG	Bank/Discount	
32	Goal Pet	Oil/Gas	
33	Blechnum Exh	Newspapers/Pub	
34	Adwest	Industrials A-D	
35	Wholesale Fitts	Electronics	
36	Shell (as)	Oil/Gas	
37	Cole Bros	Bank/Discount	
38	Newmark (Lous)	Electronics	
39	Morrison (W)	Food	
40	Bodycorp	Industrials A-D	
41	Black (Pier)	Industrials A-D	
42	Aluma	Industrials A-D	
43	AA Breweries	Breweries	
44	Reuter	Industrials L-R	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend  
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Week Total

The winners of the weekly £4,000 Portfolio Platinum prize are Mr George Hogan, of Bodmin, Cornwall, and Mr Leonard Holmes, of South Croydton, Surrey.

Start out winning  
Stock

SHORTS (Under Five Years)	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1980s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1981s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1982s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1983s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1984s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1985s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1986s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1987s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1988s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1989s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1990s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1970s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1971s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1972s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1973s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1974s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1975s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1976s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1977s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1978s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1979s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1980s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1960s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1961s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1962s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1963s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1964s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1965s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1966s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1967s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1968s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1969s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1970s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

UNDATED	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1980s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1981s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1982s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1983s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1984s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1985s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1986s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1987s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1988s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1989s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1990s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

INDEX-LINKED	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1980s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1981s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1982s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1983s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1984s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1985s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1986s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1987s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1988s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1989s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1990s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1980s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1981s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1982s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1983s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1984s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1985s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1986s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1987s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1988s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1989s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
1990s	100	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Capitalisation	Company	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1	113.2m	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	113.2m	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	113.2m	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	113.2m	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	113.2m	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	113.2m	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	113.2m	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	113.2m	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	113.2m	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	113.2m	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

BREWERS	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

BUILDING, ROADS	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

FINANCE, LAND	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

FINANCIAL TRUSTS	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

FOODS	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

DRAPERY, STORES	Price	Change	Div	Yield	P/E
1	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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5	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	113.2	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
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Class 2: S Baintova: P R J Class R (Dlv 2): L N Bullivant: A  
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turned £33.1 for the year, £5.2 more than the £27.9 million reported last year. The company's operating profit was £10.1 million, up from £7.5 million in 1995. The company's operating profit was £10.1 million, up from £7.5 million in 1995. The company's operating profit was £10.1 million, up from £7.5 million in 1995.

<b>Computer</b>	<b>Class No:</b> Q Allan; C. Earnshaw; N	<b>Information Systems</b>	<b>Houston:</b> S M MacBride, H
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# Do we need the trainers?

More than 10,000 newly trained teachers will enter schools this September, watched critically by pupils, heads, and parents to see whether they measure up to expectations. To a large extent, their first year in school will depend on how well they have been trained. The question now being increasingly asked throughout Europe by governments, parents and the education establishment is: "How good are the teacher-trainers?"

European education ministers called recently for a systematic review at national and European levels of the retention and training of teacher-trainers, who should, they said, be given opportunities to maintain contact with the reality of school life.

The standard of teacher-training is likely to be of increased importance because the supply of sufficient high-quality teachers is presenting many governments in Europe with an acute and growing problem. Birth rates are rising, staying-on rates increasing. Sheila Lawlor, of the Centre for Policy Studies, has already made the views of the right wing clear about teacher-training in England and Wales. She says that all graduate teachers should be trained on the job and university education departments closed. The bachelor of education degree should be scrapped and replaced with a certificate of advanced study. Those who decide to become teachers would be eligible for a year's training in primary schools but would not be able to teach in secondary schools.

John MacGregor, the education secretary, is concerned about the quality of teacher-training and he will come under growing pressure to consider some reforms.

A recent survey of European-wide teacher-training, led by Mike Bruce, former dean of education at Thames Polytechnic, shows that the trainers themselves are given little training.

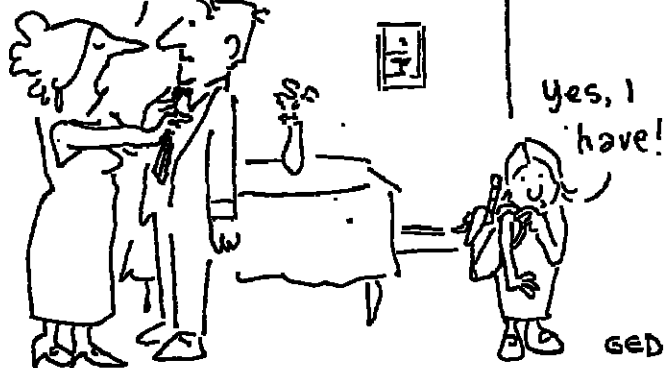
He says: "The quality of teacher-trainers is critical. They need to be able to recruit good students, to retain them, to prepare them for a fast changing profession. It may now be time to shift attention to the quality of the teacher-trainers themselves."

Dr John Wilson, from the department of teacher education at Victoria University of Technology, Melbourne, Australia, and one of the researchers, agrees: "In the Nineties, it may be that quality of teacher-trainers gives cause for concern."

In the United States, several reports and studies in the past few

years have linked the crisis in elementary and secondary school education to the failure of teacher-training. Dr Wilson points out that the "patchy record" of teacher-training gives governments the opportunity they need to reform it. He adds that throughout Europe, new staff are often selected because they are known to the college and often go straight to work without formal training, being expected to learn on the job.

Had a hard day teaching teachers, dear?



There has been criticism of teacher-training in England and Wales over the past ten years and there have already been some changes. At school level, there have been efforts to improve the quality of supervision and to achieve more effective liaison

with colleges that have developed new programmes of pre-service training.

In Europe, practical classroom experience is now one of the priorities in teacher-training and depends on the skill of the classroom teacher allocated to oversee the trainee teacher, but Dr Wilson points out: "If UK evidence is typical, trainers at this level are rarely carefully selected and trained."

Practical problems may mean that not all suitable schools are used or that there is pressure on a few; in some cases, less than suitable schools will be chosen to make up the numbers, and many teachers have had no experience of handling students; head teachers may allocate students to

teachers without adequate information, and college expectations may not be fulfilled.

Dr Wilson says: "In some schools, the presence of a student is taken as an opportunity for the regular teacher to absent herself so that the student virtually takes over the class and gets little feedback on her performance."

Many colleges, he says, simply do not recognise the need for the classroom supervisor to be trained. "Improving the quality of initial teacher-trainers at this level could enhance the training experience for students," Dr Wilson says. "It could also be an investment in initial teacher-trainers as a whole."

In the UK, virtually any classroom teacher can become a school-level trainer, although it is recognised that some teachers are better qualified for that role than others. But Dr Wilson says that effective teachers do not necessarily make good trainers. Colleges, he says, should undertake research to discover the skills needed by classroom supervisors, then devise appropriate training.

Training staff in the colleges are almost all former teachers who are not given any further training. "It is the exception for formal induction to be arranged although nearly all express a wish for it," Dr Wilson says. Two main questions about future training have to be decided, he says: how will the new trainers be recruited and selected, and will they be prepared systematically for their job or will they be expected to learn from experience?

Almost all new staff receive informal help but there is little formal instruction in what the job entails and how it should be tackled. "The implication is that those who manage college-level teacher-training believe that few additional professional skills are required beyond successful teaching experience... and that these can be quickly assimilated through experience on the job," Dr Wilson says.

College trainers require the expertise of good classroom teachers and the skills of school-based trainers, but they also need to know how to monitor and supervise staff, recognising weaknesses and how to deal with them.

Dr Wilson says: "It is hard not to conclude that if better initial training is the goal, a start should be made by training the trainers."

● The survey, published in "European Journal of Teacher Education", Carfax Publishing Company, PO Box 25 Abingdon, Oxfordshire OX14 3UE, back numbers £26.50 each.



Lucinda Cash-Gibson: five years old and brilliant at home, seemingly a slow learner at school

## Too clever by five

A gifted child can throw a state school into confusion

Twice a week Lucinda Cash-Gibson waits for her education to arrive at the door. Elected last year as Mensa's youngest ever member, the five-year-old has been withdrawn from the state system and now relies on two-hour visits from a personal tutor for her schooling.

With an IQ of 161 and an intellectual ability said by educational psychologists to be that of an eight-year-old, Lucinda is a symbol of the growing dissonance between local education authorities and parents of children considered "gifted". She is unsettled, temperamental and unlikely to receive a school place by next term.

Her mother, Coral, aged 33, looks after Lucinda, with some financial assistance from Mensa's Foundation for Gifted Children. Mrs Cash-Gibson stopped work last March when she removed Lucinda from an infants' school in Camden because, she says, the inner London borough failed to accommodate Lucinda's potential. Camden argues that she should allow her daughter to work in a mixed-ability system.

At the age of four, Lucinda had been classified as "unusually creative, musical and imaginative" and had already started playing piano and violin. She joined a private nursery, which allowed her to work with children up to two years older than herself.

She was, however, emotionally behind her classmates and a psychologist recommended that she be moved into the state system so she could work with children of similar emotional maturity. "Within three weeks of being at

the school, Lucinda became reluctant to attend," Mrs Cash-Gibson says. "She was brooding, bored and frustrated. At home, she continued to write and illustrate her own stories, while at school she began to pretend that she was unable to do the smallest task."

"The headmaster said that Lucinda had been unable to do simple mathematical sums" and was lagging behind in her reading. She had begun to conform with her peer group by downplaying her ability. The school refused to accept there was a problem.

Lucinda was referred to the child psychology department at the Royal Free Hospital in Hampstead and Mrs Cash-Gibson approached Camden for assistance. Peter John Wilkinson, one of the council's assistant education officers, said that, although the council accepted that Lucinda was of above-average intelligence, it could not test her for special-needs provision under the 1981 Education Act because this applied only to children at the other end of the academic scale.

He argued that children of high ability could be accommodated within mixed-ability classes. The council would not encourage children to be pushed too quickly through the educational system.

Local authorities can award grants to pay for pupils to attend private special needs school, but Mr Wilkinson said it was not

Camden's policy to support children outside the state sector. It has agreed to check Lucinda's progress through social workers.

While Lucinda's future remains uncertain, the government has been considering a National Association of Gifted Children report on how the needs of "gifted" children are met in the state sector.

Edward Chitham, the association's spokesman, says the report outlines the degree to which 66 participating local authorities have recognised the difficulties encountered by children such as Lucinda. He estimates that up to 2 per cent of all school children under the age of 16 can be considered gifted.

Mr Chitham says: "We get several hundred reports from parents such as Mrs Cash-Gibson each year and the numbers are increasing. We are still exploring the provisions of special needs education to see how they may cater for giftedness."

"The key problem is the ambiguity under the 1944 Education Act, which outlines the need for children to be assessed according to their age, aptitude and ability. We hope our report will clarify ways, whether by acceleration to higher age groups or by granting additional classes, in which the state sector can meet the ability clause more effectively."

Dr John Wilson, of the Mensa Foundation, says his fund is already helping 6,000 children. Many parents of gifted children, tired of waiting, are "trying" whatever means possible to get their child into the private sector, he says.

TOM GILES

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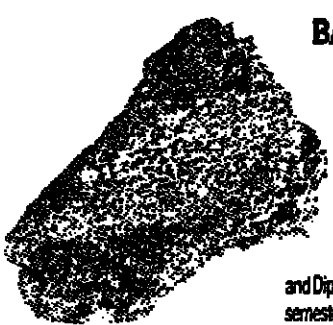
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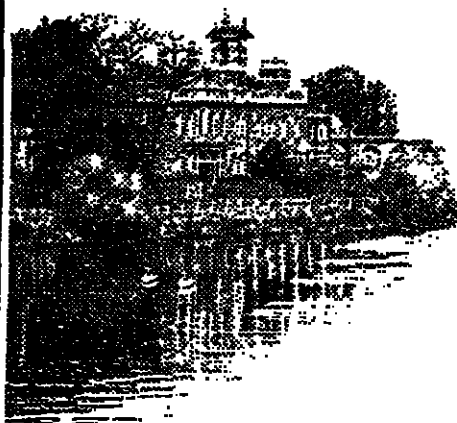
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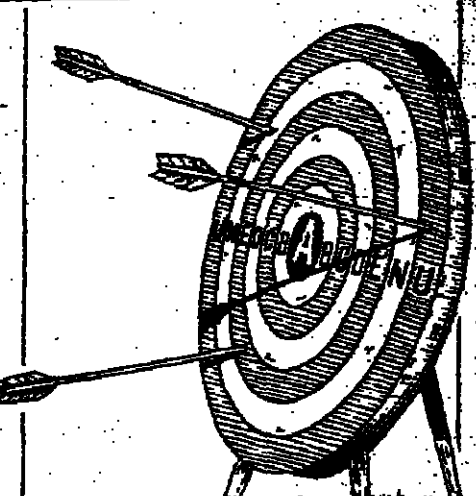
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A ticket to Australia and a cricket record are at stake for England's stylish non-conformist

# Sentence on Gower adjourned as he faces his final trial

By ALAN LEE  
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

THIS week's final Cornhill Test match at the Oval will do more than settle a series against India. It will decide if David Gower can become the most capped Englishman of all time or whether, like Ali and Sinatra, he has made one comeback too many.

Gower's retention in a party unchanged from that which gathered at Old Trafford, paradoxically indicates that he is not a certainty for the Australian tour. He could have been left out, with assurances about the winter, to give the selectors scope for manoeuvre. Significantly, they have decreed that he must play, with the implicit inference that he must play well to secure his future.

This will be Gower's 109th Test match, three short of Colin Cowdrey's England record. He is 33 years old, four years younger than Graham Gooch, so there seems no good reason why he should not push on close to 150 caps. No reason, that is, other than his own failure to convert peerless strokeplay into the productivity demanded in a summer of runs, and the nagging suspicion that he remains on a sabbatical under England's new regime.

It is not that Gower has failed since resuming his Test career two matches ago. He has continued to average above 40. He has disappointed only by comparison with the four batsmen around him. Gooch, the captain, averages 145 in the series. Atherton 71, Lamb 76, and Smith, who seems disinclined to lose his wicket, 297.

These, also, are men who are either products of, or converts to, the regime which

## England party

	Age	Tests
G A Gooch (Essex, capt)	37	80
A J Lamb (Northants)	33	7
A R C Fraser (Middlesex)	33	13
E E Hemmings (Notts)	41	11
A J Lamb (Northants)	36	16
D E Malcott (Derbyshire)	27	22
D E Malcott (Derbyshire)	26	26
R C Russell (Gloucester)	27	27
R A Smith (Hampshire)	26	17
R Williams (Middlesex)	28	17

preaches the disciplines of which Gower is not a natural devotee. Even his fluorescent socks are worn, as an advertisement of individuality in an environment which does not encourage it. It would be nice to give marks to the personality; at present, the clones are winning hands down.

So, the senior man, in terms of caps and accomplishments, finds himself on trial once more, possibly needing a century to feel safe. The same, presumably, is not true of John Morris, the latest man to occupy the No. 6 position which Gooch and Micky Stewart, the England manager, have annexed for a specialist batsman, no matter the contrary persuasions. It is now a baffling blind spot, for the sixth batsman has been superfluous for this entire summer. Morris has not had a fair trial and, for that reason, he will probably go to Australia.

Ted Dexter, chairman of the England committee, said when announcing the party: "Winning the series remains an absolute priority." Quite right, too. The unchanged team, however, does not to my mind represent the best route to the priority.

It seems the management is locked into a confinement of four bowlers and that, this

time, they are even seriously considering doing without a spinner. At the Oval, which will not just be the fastest but also, significantly, the best pitch of the summer, this will invite disaster if the same lack of control afflicts Malcolm and Lewis as it did at Old Trafford, or if the uncapped Williams is as wayward as he was in Middlesex's NatWest Trophy semi-final.

How Williams has accelerated past other deserving candidates remains a mystery. In these things, it usually helps to play for Middlesex, although Mike Gatting would be quick to assert that it has certainly not helped Middlesex to have Williams, as well as Fraser, claimed by England during the run-in to the championship. Perhaps Gatting has been lucky. Most outsiders would have chosen his left-arm spin bowler, Tufnell, as well.

## No play yesterday

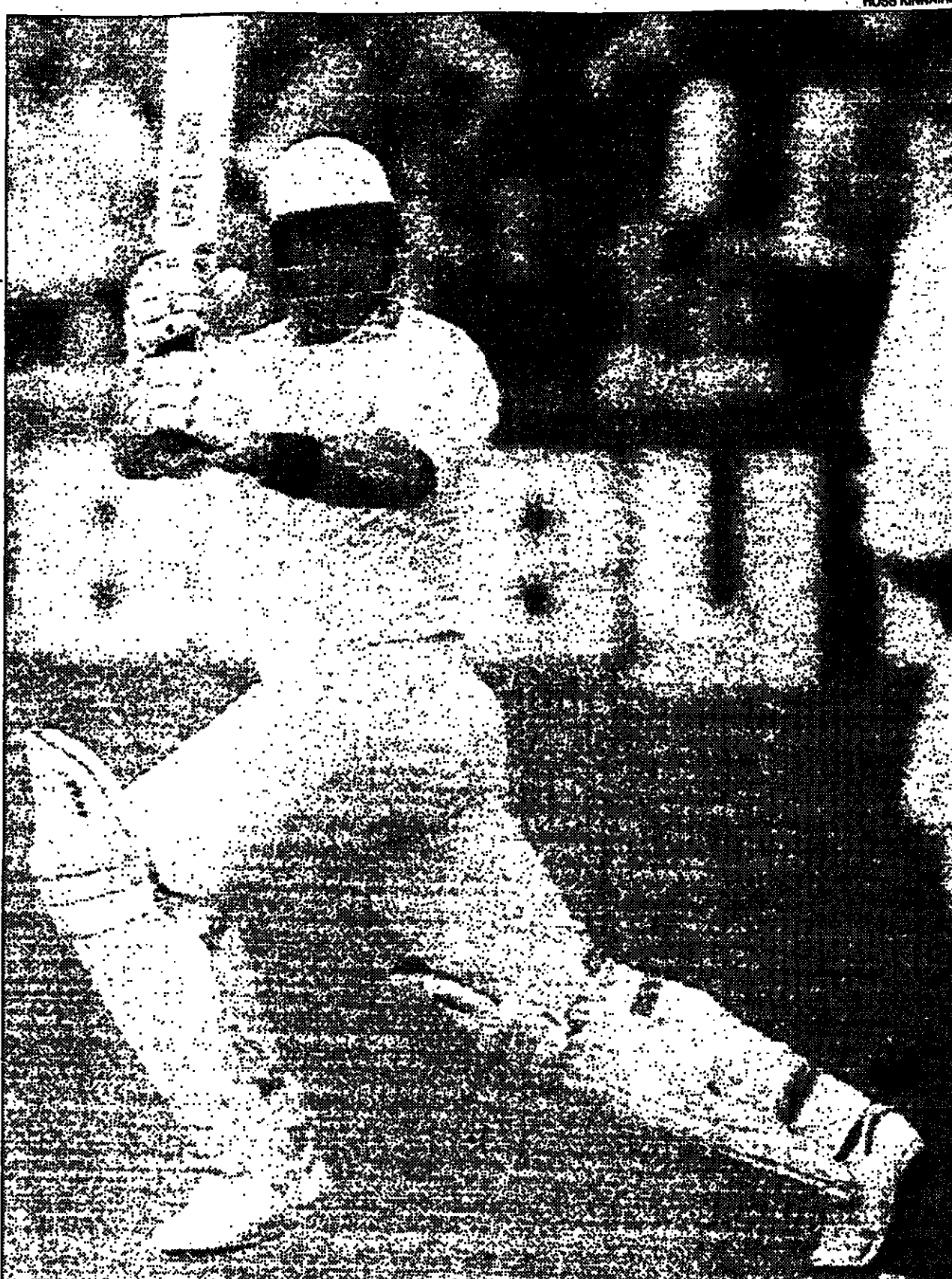
CANTERBURY: Kent v Sussex  
LORDS: Minor Counties knockout cup  
NORTHANTS: 15-19 International  
Pakistan v England: Pakistan U-19 266-6  
OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Yorkshire  
Lancashire 417-4  
SWANSEA: Tour match: Glamorgan v The Indians. The Indians 330 for 9 (38 R Tackett 68, N Mingle 60, W V Flemming 59, N S Sidhu 54). Glamorgan 38 for 2.

## Record win

Hull Kingston Rovers romped to a record rugby league victory, scoring 18 tries in a 100-6 Yorkshire Cup preliminary round victory at Nottingham City yesterday.

## Promotion bonus

Oldham Rugby League Club, promoted to the first division last season, has broken club records by taking more than £100,000 in season ticket sales — an increase of nearly 300 per cent on last season.



Brightness in the gloom: John Morris, the England player, of Derbyshire, clips a ball off his legs on the way to 48 in a rain-ruined Refuge Assurance league match against Middlesex at Derby yesterday. The abandoned match, with Middlesex 85 for two, chasing 129, was a blow to the Middlesex title hopes. Report, page 36

## Nottinghamshire face anxious wait

By WALTER GAMMIE

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE finished its rock bottom in the Sunday league in which they have won only two matches. Curtis batted throughout an innings out to 35 overs, making 83 not out off 93 balls as he gave his partners their head. Lord dominated an opening stand of 116, and D'Oliveira thrashed 58, reaching his half-century off 31 balls by hitting Davis for six, four, four and six in successive balls, in a third-wicket partnership of 97.

Northamptonshire had replaced with 35 for three off 8.4 overs before rain handed them an unexpected bonus of two points for an abandoned match.

Cheltenham Small, dropped by England to rediscover form in the county game, substantially improved his season's Sunday league aggregate for Warwickshire of two wickets for 266 runs by taking three for 20 as Leicestershire made 121 for five off 28.1 overs before play was washed out at Edgbaston.

Chris Lewis, named in the England 12 for the Oval Test match on Friday, made a rapid 43.

The matches at Chelmsford, between Essex and Surrey, and at Canterbury, between Kent and Sussex, were both abandoned without a ball bowled.

## Hampshire make light of grey day

By RICHARD STRETON

TAUNTON (Hampshire won toss; second day of four): Hampshire have scored 401 for nine wickets against Somerset.

HAMPSHIRE, who are still championship contenders, made the best possible use of the six overs allowed by some miserable weather yesterday. They continued their first innings to the end of the day, adding a further 42 runs for the ninth wicket. Otherwise heavy rain and drizzle alternated throughout, with the distant Quantocks coming and going like a mirage.

Nicholas, presumably, would have declared straightaway if this had been a three-day match. As things turned out he must have been delighted with the unexpected riches provided by the two tailenders. Against Jones and Mallett, with a ball still fairly new, Bakker, on his

33rd birthday, heaved away while Connor contributed some creditable strokes.

A start was not possible until 20 minutes after lunch and during the brief exchanges, Connor took three fours in an over against Mallett, past mid-on, square-leg and mid-off. Mallett ended the stand, though, when Bakker chopped a yorker into his stumps. It gave Mallett five for 102 in 27 overs.

Ayling, who had retired hurt on Saturday with an injured hand, came out to resume his innings. As soon as he reached the centre, however, the players went off for bad light. There were several inspections and false alarms between the showers and much hard work by the groundstaff, but a resumption was never possible. Shortly before six o'clock the umpires bowed to the inevitable.

Haynes is tour captain

THE opening batsman, Desmond Haynes, aged 34, is to captain the West Indies tour party to Pakistan later this year.

The West Indies Board secretary, Steve Camacho, confirmed yesterday that the Barbadian, who also opens the innings for Middlesex in the

## YACHTING

## 470 judges tear up first-day placings

From a CORRESPONDENT  
IN MEDEMBLICK,  
THE NETHERLANDS

TYNU Tyntse and his brother Toomas, the Estonian 470 silver medal winners at the Seoul Olympic Games, took the opening race of the 470 world championships here yesterday, while the women's fleet was led home by another Soviet crew, Larissa Moskalenko and Elena Poborski.

The leading British 470 men's crew, Nigel and former world champions, turned in a respectable fifth place, but Britons placed poorly in the remaining world championship races. Among them were Slay Backing of Israel, who crossed the line second, and the third finisher, Martin Fuchs, of West Germany, who were both likely to be disqualified for the next day's racing. Now they are forced to count these disqualifications in their score, that dream has already faded.

After a disappointing first day, chasing a wind which never came, Buckley and Newlands clawed back from twentieth place to cross the line in eighth position, rising to fifth through the disqualifications.

PROVISIONAL RESULTS: Six World 470 Men's Race: 1. T Tyntse and T Toomas (EST); 2. B Backing (ISR); 3. O Fuchs (GER); 4. S Backing (ISR); 5. B Backing (ISR); 6. B Backing (ISR); 7. B Backing (ISR); 8. B Backing (ISR); 9. B Backing (ISR); 10. B Backing (ISR); 11. B Backing (ISR); 12. B Backing (ISR); 13. B Backing (ISR); 14. B Backing (ISR); 15. B Backing (ISR); 16. B Backing (ISR); 17. B Backing (ISR); 18. B Backing (ISR); 19. B Backing (ISR); 20. B Backing (ISR); 21. B Backing (ISR); 22. B Backing (ISR); 23. B Backing (ISR); 24. B Backing (ISR); 25. B Backing (ISR); 26. B Backing (ISR); 27. B Backing (ISR); 28. B Backing (ISR); 29. B Backing (ISR); 30. B Backing (ISR); 31. B Backing (ISR); 32. B Backing (ISR); 33. B Backing (ISR); 34. B Backing (ISR); 35. B Backing (ISR); 36. B Backing (ISR); 37. B Backing (ISR); 38. B Backing (ISR); 39. B Backing (ISR); 40. B Backing (ISR); 41. B Backing (ISR); 42. B Backing (ISR); 43. B Backing (ISR); 44. B Backing (ISR); 45. B Backing (ISR); 46. 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